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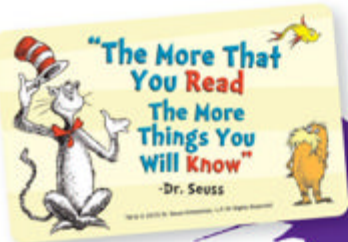
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82



94



88



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HOMES

82 THE WHITE STUFF

A Toronto couple proves that a mostly white interior can be both stylish and family friendly

88 SEEING THE WHITE

Art director Karen Paddon finally gets her own white kitchen that perfectly suits her family of four

94 LET THERE BE WHITE

This real estate developer's modern home is the essence of sleek serenity

COLUMNS

27 STYLE NEWS

The best home decor products, the hottest trends and the most inspiring ideas

34 TRENDSPOTTING

Learn how to master the chic tomboy trend

36 HOUSEKEEPING

How to keep your dish sponge germ-free

38 ORGANIZING

Tips for decluttering a farmhouse kitchen

40 DOLLARS & SENSE

Love It or List It Vancouver co-host Jillian Harris sheds light on the dos and don'ts of home staging

42 ROOMS WE LOVE

A stylish kids' bathroom with whimsical accents and pops of colour

44 STYLE DESTINATION

Senior web editor Natalie DiScala escapes to Honolulu for a dose of sun to brighten her spirits

46 DESSERT OF THE MONTH

Delectable Earl Grey meltaways

50 INSIDE DESIGN

An interview with Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams to celebrate the company's many years of success

54 HIGH OR LOW

Two kitchen pantries devised on drastically different budgets

MARCH 2015



62



34

DECORATING

A HAPPY COMPROMISE

This fresh and functional main floor was designed to keep his and her wish lists top of mind **62**

LOFTY AMBITIONS

Designer Montana Labelle decorates her loft with a fashion-forward eclectic aesthetic **68**

WYLDE THING

A designer creates the perfect retro-industrial look for a radio personality's first home **74**

FOOD & DRINKS

HEADS UP!

Zesty garlic is perfect for adding some much-needed zing to the last days of winter **100**

DRINKS

Wine expert Angela Aiello shares five tips for buying inexpensive wines **106**

REGULARS

From Our Editor **12**

Get Social **18**

Inside Style **20**

S@H Digital **22**

Workbook **108**

Style Survey **114**

WIN THIS

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ON THE COVER

An all-white kitchen featuring both modern and traditional elements **82**

PHOTOGRAPHY

Michael Graydon



100



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risky BUSINESS

The year was 1993 and I was in love with the look of Tex-Mex style. It was my fourth year at McGill University and I had just moved into 250 square feet of first-apartment perfection. To most, it was the classic student bachelor pad – dirty white walls, scratched floors and terrible lighting. But to me, it was a blank slate for what was going to be my masterpiece of Montreal-meets-Santa Fe design. After a flurry of painting faux finishes (I sponge-painted my living room in shades of mustard and ochre), I moved in with my cobalt blue margarita glasses, Aztec-patterned toss cushions and a halogen pendant light I'd fashioned from copper wire and tubing. While most of my friends were spending money on wine from the local *dépanneur*, I was using what little cash I had to decorate.

Looking back, the most memorable part of that apartment's decor was its lavish use of colour – those vibrant Southwestern shades are not part of my comfort zone now, that's for sure. The best part of working at *Style at Home*, though, is that you're surrounded by creative people who push you to take design risks. Our art director, Karen Paddon, knows all about that. Her recent kitchen overhaul was her first foray into the reno world, and she was inclined to be cautious with her decor choices. That meant having to be convinced to go with a beautiful graphic swirl wallpaper and bold bench cushions for some much-needed pizzazz in the all-white kitchen's eat-in area. Convinced she was, and the results are stunning (see them for yourself in our story "Seeing the White" on page 88).

At the end of the day, great design comes from having the confidence to take those style gambles. So when I decorate now, I try to channel some of that person I was 12 years ago. After all, I know she's in there somewhere, still loving those mustard-coloured walls.

Erin McLaughlin erin@styleathome.com

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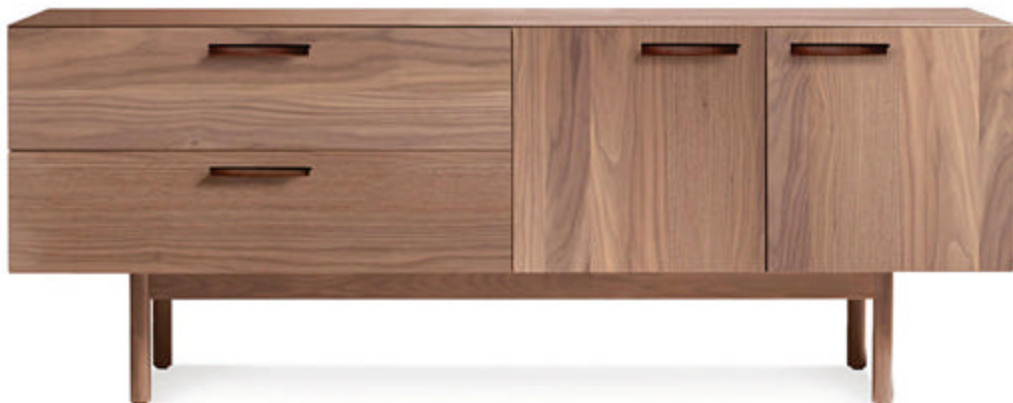
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 ONE-OF-A-KIND FIND

I have subscribed to *Style at Home* for many years now and always look forward to receiving the new issue. I'll set it aside for a Friday evening when I can pore over the pages in my library with a glass of wine. I really have learned a thing or two about decorating. Check out the great chair I found (pictured above) for a quarter of the cost, inspired by the one featured in *Style News* (January 2015, page 26). It's my own "chairy" on top!

LAURIE MCMURTRY, VIA EMAIL

 BRIGHT IDEAS

My gift to myself this season was a wind-down day catching up on the past three issues of *Style at Home*. Reading the magazines gave me time to appreciate some of the new features. I especially enjoyed the sidebars in the decorating stories like "save vs. splurge" and "reno take-aways." Thanks for keeping the magazine fresh!

MARGARET ROBINSON, METCALFE, ON

 WHIMSICAL DISCOVERY

Every month, when I get my *Style at Home* subscription in the mail, I spend hours devouring the decorating tips and renovation stories. I must admit that I totally fell in love with the "Birds of a Feather" article in the January 2015 issue (page 70). I've been looking for a pendant light for my front entry for quite some time and am always disappointed because I can never find anything befitting my personality. It's certainly a very beautiful ornament.

JACQUIE FRASER-RITCHIE, VIA EMAIL



FANCY FEET

I've just spent a wonderful two-week holiday at home. I enjoyed many mornings browsing through the February 2015 issue and was inspired by the lovely ideas. One of my favourites is managing editor Catherine Therrien's savvy project on repurposing a cable-knit sweater for a footstool (page 21). I'm looking to redecorate on a budget, and the sweater idea is perfect.

CHANTELLE SCHOofs, VIA EMAIL



COZY COMFORTS

I enjoyed Janet Appleton's schoolhouse home in "Top of the Class" (January 2015, page 52), which she made very stylishly cozy. Perhaps the numbers on the front door are a cheeky nod to previous students: $3 + 4 = 7$. With a cup of tea in hand and my feet up, it's now time to finish the issue.

JEAN JARDIN, CARLETON PLACE, ON



@StyleAtHome Congrats on a fabulous February 2015 issue! Loved every interior and the recipes look beyond delicious. #styleathome #interiordecor

@DESIGNING_GAL



Last day of my holiday and I'm taking it easy with @styleathome and a cup of tea. This February 2015 issue is going to be hard to top – so many swoon-worthy spaces!

@STACIEDWARDS



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behind the scenes

Here are some fun moments captured by our editors this month. Keep up with what we're doing by following us on Instagram @styleathome.



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✦ Associate design editor Morgan Lindsay recently made her debut on *The Marilyn Denis Show*, creating stunning gift wrap. She certainly wasn't camera-shy! @missmlindsay



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LIKE

✦ Miele's global executive team stands beside the brand's new free-standing range. Flip to page 32 to get the scoop. @missmlindsay

♥
LIKE

✦ This rainbow-bright sunrise in Waikiki, Honolulu, is giving us some serious warm weather envy. Find out more about the magical locale on page 44. @nataliediscala



♥
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✦ Associate editor Sara Cation poses with design mavens Mitchell Gold (right) and Bob Williams. Read her interview on page 50. @saracation



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20
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Sign up for any one of the Style at Home newsletters and you'll automatically be entered into our monthly e-newsletter subscriber contest for your chance to win great prizes!



ON THE TABLET

Check out Style at Home on your tablet for enhanced features, including an extended interview with Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams, our first Dessert of the Month video and much more. Available now on the iTunes store.



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Engage in your retirement

Canadians want a retirement that's personalized for them. As retirement age nears, it's time to take stock of savings. In the final installment of this three-part series, personal finance expert Deirdre McMurdy has advice on how to create a plan that's right for you.



**DEIRDRE'S
TIP**

Determine how you'll withdraw. Because so much attention is focused on saving and investing, retirees sometimes neglect to apply the same rigour to withdrawing money—especially when it comes to registered funds. There are mandatory minimum withdrawals of 7.48 per cent a year when RRSPs are transformed into RRIFs or annuities. It's also important to make sure you are maximizing the tax efficiency of your various savings.



ADVERTORIAL

**DEIRDRE'S
TIP**

Review your portfolio.

As you get closer to retirement, the tolerance for risk usually declines sharply and preserving capital becomes a top priority. That means recalibrating the mix of assets in your portfolio and shifting away from growth stocks into more secure, stable investments. It also requires a hard look at returns in a low-interest rate environment, and variables like inflation. As you approach retirement, a trusted financial advisor can review your options to help you make the decision that's right for you.



**DEIRDRE'S
TIP**

Break down the numbers.

Make sure you have a realistic lifestyle plan that your retirement budget can support. You need at least two separate sets of funds: one for basic living expenses and the other for more discretionary spending like trips or home renovations. Bear in mind that you're likely going to have retirement income from a number of sources and they should work together to deliver what you need (and want!).

62%

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(Scotiabank CK&I, January 2014 The Retirement Landscape – A Focus on the Baby Boomer)

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*The \$10,000 RSP Giveaway (the "Contest") commences at 12:00 a.m. (ET) on January 19, 2015 and ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on March 2, 2015. No purchase is necessary. The Contest is open to all legal residents of Canada who have reached the age of majority in their province of residence at the time of entry, except employees of The Bank of Nova Scotia and all agencies/representatives (and persons domiciled with them and immediate relatives) and anyone who will be over the age of 71 on December 31, 2015. There will be 6 prizes awarded, each consisting of a Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RSP) contribution of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00 CAD) to each winner's Scotiabank RSP. The chances of winning depend on the total number of eligible entries received during the Contest period. Answering of a skill testing question is required to be officially declared a winner. For full contest details go to www.scotiabank.com/rspgiveaway. ® Registered trademarks of The Bank of Nova Scotia.

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PROJECT *of the* MONTH

Managing editor and resident crafter Catherine Therrien makes the cheeky print trend more dynamic – the magnetic letters and backing mean you can switch up the quote as often as you like.

Cole & Son Vivienne Westwood Magnolia **WALLPAPER**, through designers, Lee Jofa, leejofa.com; **VASES**, Jonathan Adler, jonathan-adler.com; **SHELF**, IKEA, ikea.ca.

A HOUSE
BECOMES A
home
WHEN YOU
FALL IN
love
WITH IT

Find more decor wisdom

like this from editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin and the rest of the *Style at Home* gang at pinterest.com/styleathome/quotables.



CHECK OUT THIS
WALLCOVERING IN
ACTION ON PAGE 88.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

Britain's formidable paint and wall-paper house Farrow & Ball looks to 19th- and 20th-century French fashion for inspiration for its three latest paper designs. Tourbillon (shown here) is borrowed from the Ducharme textile design studio, a favourite among couturiers of the early and mid-1900s. The segmented circle motif is fluid and graphic in a modern way that easily lends itself to contemporary decor.

Tourbillon **WALLPAPER** in BP4802, \$260 per double roll, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

+
BOOT
UP



Embody the nostalgia of 20th-century Europe with the perfect pair of country-chic wellies. Hunter's iconic design gets a racy update with a stripe detail in a complementary shade.

Original Stripe
RAIN BOOTS
in Midnight & Sky Blue, \$170, Hunter, hunter-boots.com.

GOLDY LOOKS



You can bring the time-worn appeal of a well-loved antique to any tabletop,

thanks to Chilewich's Imprint placemats. The patches of rough gold appear as though they've developed slowly over time, and the loose weave and frayed edges add to the homey effect. Best of all, the vinyl mats are low maintenance and easy to clean.

Imprint **PLACEMATS** in Rustic Gold, \$24 each, Chilewich, chilewich.com.

PHOTOGRAPHY, RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA (RAIN BOOTS)

UTILITARIAN CHIC

THERE IS SOMETHING VERY HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA ABOUT IKEA'S NEW SLÄHULT/DALSHULT TABLE. BUT MUCH LIKE THE STORIED GIRL NEXT DOOR, IT'S THE HUMBLE SIMPLICITY - THE DURABLE WHITE MELAMINE TOP, THE X-SHAPED SOLID BIRCH BASE - THAT INVITES ADMIRATION.

Melamine Slåhult **DINING TABLE TOP**, \$99, birch Dalshult **DINING TABLE BASE**, \$120, IKEA, ikea.ca.



This **SLEEK DINING TABLE** proves that **SIMPLE** NEED NOT BE BORING.

COME SEE OUR
Spring 2015
COLLECTION



ELTE

ELTE.COM



Lodge **ARM-CHAIR** with Varsity Charcoal fabric, \$1,350, Gus Modern, gusmodern.com.

TAKE AN ORDINARY UPHOLSTERED SIDECHEIR, FLANK IT WITH CHUNKY SCULPTURAL BENT-WOOD SIDES, AND WHAT DO YOU GET? ONLY THE MOST ROCKIN' ARMCHAIR WE'VE SEEN SO FAR THIS YEAR! THE WALNUT STAIN ON THE PLYWOOD PLAYS OFF THE BUSINESS-SUIT GREY FABRIC FOR A SEAT THAT'S EQUALLY AT HOME IN A LODGE OR A BOARDROOM.

BOXY BABE

ON THE DOUBLE

Get close – really close. The **NEW DOUBLE DOORS** on the latest wall oven from GE Monogram **CUT THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR FOOD IN HALF**, making it easy to add an extra squirt of glaze to your signature ham. Requiring less depth, the oven is perfect for a narrow galley kitchen.

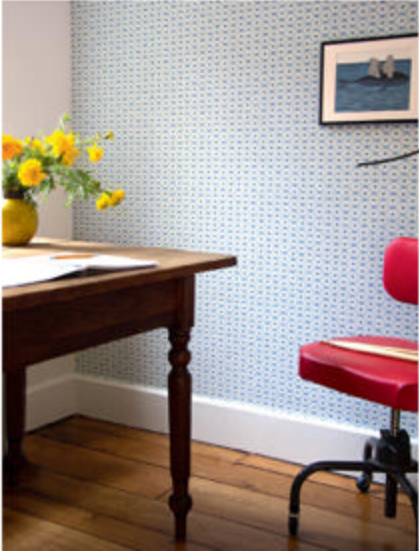
GE Monogram French-door **WALL OVEN**, 30", \$5,099, GE Appliances, geappliances.ca.



CASE OF THE BLUES

Philly-based Galbraith & Paul's most recent artisanal wallpapers – Tusk, Fern and Casita – are just what the decorator ordered. The fresh patterns come in a plethora of hues, but it's the watery shades that caught our eye. Indigo, cobalt, denim...only a fool would chase *these* blues away.

Each of these hand-printed wallpapers comes in up to 12 COLOURS but a custom hue is also an option.



ABOVE (FROM LEFT) Galbraith & Paul Tusk **WALLPAPER** in Light Robin's Egg, Fern **WALLPAPER** in Wave, Casita **WALLPAPER** in Navy, \$110 per yard each, Y & Co., ycocarpet.com.

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RANGE RACE

The hottest brands are vying for your affection with their latest range offerings. Here's a snapshot of what's new and covetable, so you can crown your own winner.



1

ROOKIE

It might be the new kid on the range block, but German appliance manufacturer Miele has been around since 1899. Known for its high-end technology, Miele hits the ground running with a full suite of free-standing units. All of them boast conveniences like an ergonomic swivelling handle, illuminated knobs and a fingerprint-resistant control panel that tilts up. This model mixes the precision of a gas range with the convenience of an electric oven.

Four-burner Dual Fuel M Touch **RANGE**, 4.6 cu. ft., \$9,999, Miele, miele.ca.

2

SMART

Every great chef knows precision is key. Get restaurant-quality results with the Samsung induction range's Virtual Flame technology. A ring of futuristic blue flame-shaped LED lights illuminates your pot, indicating the level of heat.

3

STURDY

Part of a redesign of Maytag's whole appliance lineup, this free-standing electric oven offers rugged die-cast metal knobs and a durable stainless steel handle that have tough industrial appeal. Bonus: It has a warming drawer feature.

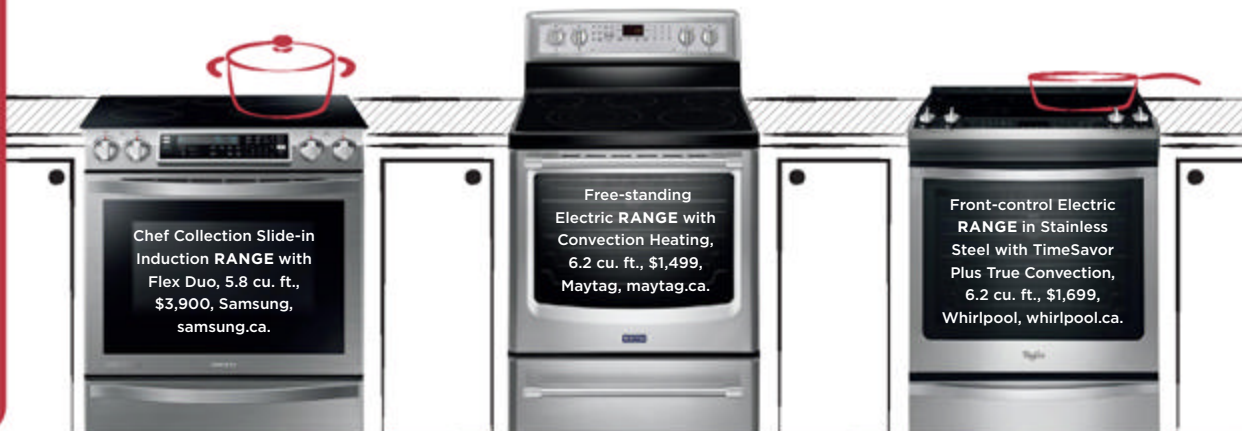
4

SPEEDY

Make coming home from a late night at the office a bit less daunting. Pop a lasagna straight from the freezer into your Whirlpool oven - its Frozen Bake feature cuts the need for preheating, accelerating cooking time by about 30 percent.

PICK
YOUR
POWER

There are tons of pro-calibre options on the market. So whether you should pick gas, electric or induction is simply up to your preferred preparation method.



Chef Collection Slide-in Induction **RANGE** with Flex Duo, 5.8 cu. ft., \$3,900, Samsung, samsung.ca.

Free-standing Electric **RANGE** with Convection Heating, 6.2 cu. ft., \$1,499, Maytag, maytag.ca.

Front-control Electric **RANGE** in Stainless Steel with TimeSaver Plus True Convection, 6.2 cu. ft., \$1,699, Whirlpool, whirlpool.ca.

A high-end modern kitchen with dark wood cabinetry, a white countertop, and a large island with a wooden top. The island is surrounded by white upholstered chairs. A large window on the right side of the kitchen provides natural light. The floor is made of light-colored wood.

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tomboy style

Our trendy associate editor Amanda Etty borrows from the guys for a look that feels just as good as your lived-in boyfriend jeans and cotton T-shirt.



INSPIRATION

Banana Republic nails the tomboy vibe with boyfriend jeans, an oversized white button-up and a neoprene bomber.



1 Waterbury Collection **WATCH** with grey case and brown leather strap, \$125, Timex, timex.ca.

2 Bowler-style Top Hat **PENDANT LIGHT**, \$125, Rizo Lola & Company, rizololaandcompany.com.

3 *Tomboy Style* **BOOK** by Lizzie Garrett Mettler, \$33, Indigo, indigo.ca.

4 Urban Woolens **FABRIC** in 3100-11, Zodiac Collection **FABRIC** in 3100-013, \$198 per yard each, through designers, Threadcount Textile & Design, threadcountinc.com.

5 Dude No. 1 **COLOGNE**, \$75 US, MCMC Fragrances, mcmcfragrances.com.

6 Bar Series Scotch **ART-WORK**, \$100, Elte, elte.com.

7 Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams leather and polished stainless steel Major **BENCH** in Tuscany Grey Slate, \$2,516, Elte, elte.com.

8 Frye Erin Lug Oxford **SHOES**, \$298, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

9 Linen-coated Round Natural **TRAY**, \$28 US, Shop Fog Linen, shop-foglinen.com.

10 Silk Hand-loomed **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Blue Lagoon, \$44, West Elm, westelm.com.

11 Frankie **ARMCHAIR**, \$599, West Elm, westelm.com.





2015 CENTENNIAL COLOUR TRENDS

Mystique

When the midnight sky falls upon us, an endless sea of possibilities awaken. As PARA celebrates their 100th anniversary, 'Spectrolite' has been selected as the Colour of the Year. A powerful, awe-inspiring, celestial, dark blue shade that radiates feelings of serenity, clarity and mystique.

See the complete selection of 2015 trend colours at a PARA Paints retailer near you, or visit para.com.



Actual paint colour may vary from samples shown. Please see in store or accurate colour samples. 'Mystique' room photo courtesy of Sedona Lifestyles, (sedonalifestyles.ca) and photographer Michael Sobocan, (michaelsobocanphotography.com).

PARA
PAINTS

para.com



dirty dish sponge

E. coli, salmonella – nasty things can lurk in a kitchen sponge. Our resourceful research editor, Mary Levitski, shows you how to keep it germ-free.



HOW-TO

STEP 1

Forever moist and full of dark nooks and crannies, a kitchen sponge is ideal breeding ground for all kinds of harmful bacteria.

Sterilize it on a regular basis, preferably daily. The best method is soaking it for a few minutes in a mixture of two teaspoons chlorine bleach and one cup water. But if you're looking for a more environmentally friendly approach, you can also place the sponge in a pot of boiling water for five minutes and hang it to dry.

STEP 2

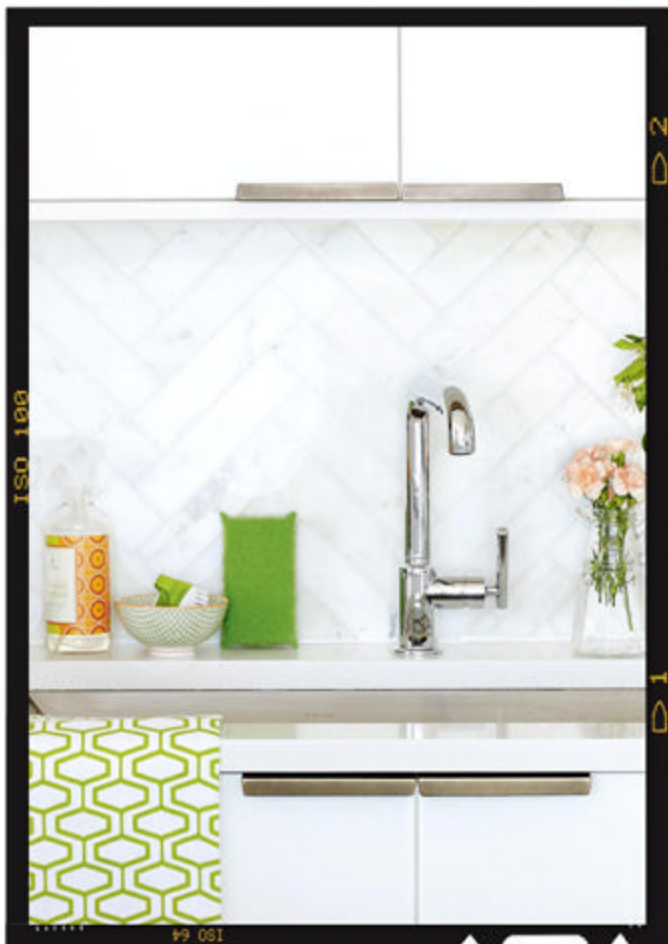
To deter germs from thriving in your sponge, keep it as dry as possible. Always rinse and wring it well before depositing it in a designated spot that has good drainage. If possible, the spot should also be in direct sunlight, which will significantly speed up drying time.

STEP 3

Replace the sponge about once a month. If your sponge has a foul odour even after you sanitize it, toss it out immediately.

TIP
↓

To minimize cross-contamination, designate a sponge for each surface: one each for dishes, countertops and floors.



STYLISH SOLUTION

Give your sponge a home that's beautiful and practical. The Meridian from Umbra (\$5, umbra.com) attaches to the wall of your sink with a suction cup. The fun plastic lattice pattern and ventilated bottom keep air circulation at a maximum, encouraging fast drying.



SPONGE SUBS

To keep bacteria in check, consider replacing your dish sponge with an alternative.



SCRUB Made of peach pits or corncobs, these stringy scrubs are so good at resisting microbes that you can use them sans soap!

Goodbye Detergent! The Original Spaghetti **SCRUBS**, \$10 US per pack of 2 each, vat19.com.



BRUSH The recycled plastic bristles dry quickly when this brush is propped up or hung by its bamboo handle.

Be Good **DISH BRUSH**, \$8, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.



CLOTH A washable microfibre dishcloth is a great substitute for a sponge. No matter how grimy it gets, just toss it in the washing machine to disinfect. We love this one's scrub pad for lifting stuck-on foods.

MU Kitchen **DISHCLOTH** in Red Poppy, \$7, Bed Bath & Beyond, bedbathandbeyond.ca.

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WHEN IT COMES
TO CLEAN
THERE'S
ONLY ONE
Mr.

farmhouse kitchen

Executive editor Suzanne Moutis loves great organizing ideas. Here, she shares innovative solutions for storing your stuff.



THIS KITCHEN'S COUNTRY AESTHETIC NATURALLY

lends itself to an easy, casual informality that's reflected in its organizing strategies – no fuss, no muss, just pure, pretty practicality.

1 Glass-fronted cabinetry gives a sneak peek at the delicate glassware inside while keeping it safe from breakage and dust.

2 Open shelving smartly fills in the empty space on each side of the range hood, and offers access to everyday crockery and oft-used serving pieces.

3 Designating a spot beside the range for essential cooks' tools means they're always within reach. A ladle here, a sprig of parsley there and just the right amount of flour or salt equals perfect meals every time.

4 An out-of-the-way corner in the island could have become simply dead space, but in this kitchen it's turned into a cubby with shelves to hold both prized cookbooks and other essentials.

5 Pot drawers are a must in today's kitchens, no matter what the style. Their deep configuration makes them ideal for storing everything from the aforementioned pots and pans to large bags of flour, mixing bowls, oversized serveware and more.

TIP

When you've got the luxury of having as much space as this kitchen, it's great to take advantage and design an island that accommodates stools so you can be connected to the kids or company while you're cooking.

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home staging

Jillian Harris, co-host of W Network's *Love It or List It Vancouver*, sheds light on the dos and don'ts of home staging.



WHEN SELLING A HOME, first impressions matter. That's why staging is key for creating an emotional connection with buyers. Signs of a happy life (like the scent of freshly baked cookies or a book beside the sofa) can instantly boost a prospective buyer's mood and maximize your home's selling potential. Here are a few important tips about the process.



DO

declutter YOUR SPACE

This is by far the most important step for staging and resale.

Organize every nook and cranny, including closets and cupboards.

It doesn't seem like much, but going the extra mile will help leave a lasting impression.

PAINT YOUR WALLS WHITE

Crisp white walls will make your home feel extra fresh and clean. Opt for a simple off-white shade like Slipper Satin by Farrow & Ball.

FOCUS ON CURB APPEAL

People always notice the front entry first, so make sure it's inviting. A few must-dos: Repaint the front door, mow the lawn and double-check that the outside lights work.

Keep every space organized, including bookshelves. It's small efforts like this that hold the most weight when preparing your home for sale.



DON'T

hide all personal MEMENTOES

A few trinkets suggest a home is filled with good memories, but limit the number of family photographs. Potential buyers need to be able to imagine themselves living there, too!

RENOVATE THE ENTIRE HOUSE This is a definite don't. Some homebuyers would rather do the reno themselves, and others aren't particular about everything being brand new.

STAGE EVERY ROOM As mentioned above, you don't need to remodel your entire house before you sell. Save yourself the time and money, and focus on smaller adjustments like furniture placement and overall tidiness.



Jillian Harris is co-host of W Network's *Love It or List It Vancouver*. Catch new episodes Mondays at 10 p.m. EST/PST on W Network.

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childrens' bathroom

This stylish kids' bathroom, with its whimsical accents and bright pops of colour, has us harking back to our rubber ducky days.



The striped shower curtain emphasizes the room's clean-lined aesthetic and introduces a warm splash of colour.

the fresh

and airy appeal of this kid-friendly bathroom, designed by Toronto-based decorator Jenifer Glover, is testament to the idea that the simplest touches are often the most striking. The space was created with her son and youngest daughter in mind, incorporating hits of sunny yellow to counter the bursts of blue. The room's pièce de résistance? It's a toss-up between the custom double-sink vanity and the marble mosaic floor tiles that playfully spell out "girls" and "boys." Either way, for the two youngsters, tub time means making a splashy statement.



Customized mosaic tiles are an ultra-creative addition to the already stunning floor.

A fresh bouquet of tulips, a porcelain bunny soap dish and a brightly patterned cup fill the space with cheer.



DESIGN, J.G. Interiors, jginteriors.com; Summer Shower 2135-60 **WALL PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; **COUNTERTOP**, Asia Marbles; subway **SHOWER WALL TILES**, Ciot; square **SHOWER WALL TILES**, Lowe's; **ACCENT SHOWER WALL TILES, FLOOR TILES**, Salttillo Imports; **SHOWER FIXTURES**, Kohler; **FAUCET**, Ginger's.

FOR SOURCES,
SEE OUR WORKBOOK



Losjön **HANGERS**,
\$9 per set of 5, IKEA,
ikea.ca.

GET THE LOOK ON A BUDGET

KIDS' BATHROOM

Beacon **SCONCE** in
White, \$98 US, Serena &
Lily, serenaandlily.com.



Morocco **SHOWER CURTAIN**
in Gold, from \$40, Bed Bath &
Beyond, bedbathandbeyond.ca.



Losjön **SOAP DISH**,
\$4, IKEA, ikea.ca.



Style at Home Solid-Colour Cotton
BATH TOWELS in Bright White,
\$23 each, Sears, sears.ca.



Giraffe **RING DISH**, \$16 US,
Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

honolulu

Aloha, Hawaii! Just when it feels like winter will never end, senior web editor Natalie DiScala suggests a dose of sun, surf and fresh seafood to brighten spirits.



THE ROYAL HAWAIIAN

Its signature pink exterior makes The Royal Hawaiian instantly recognizable on the shores of Waikiki Bay and has earned it the name "Pink Palace of the Pacific." The luxurious rooms are a mix of modern amenities and charming local design details, creating an elegant home-away-from-home feeling for guests.

2259 Kalakaua Ave., royal-hawaiian.com.



THE MODERN HONOLULU

The hotel is a destination for design lovers, with its simple, streamlined interior and clean palette. Even if you don't stay here, plan to dine at The Modern Honolulu's restaurant, Morimoto Waikiki. The menu offers fresh Pacific seafood and blends the best of Hawaiian and Japanese cuisines.

1775 Ala Moana Blvd.,
themodernhonolulu.com.



KALAKAUA AVENUE

Kalakaua Avenue is the place to shop in Honolulu. There's something for everyone – from designer boutiques to kiosks offering traditional local crafts. And don't leave without stopping by the Honolulu Cookie Company for one of its pineapple macadamia or white chocolate Kona coffee cookies.



WAIKIKI BEACH

No Hawaiian getaway is complete without a splash in the Pacific Ocean. Family-friendly activities abound on Waikiki Beach, from surfing lessons to snorkelling to outrigger canoe rides. Most hotels can help guests set up excursions and day trips with reputable operators.



BOGART'S CAFE

In my opinion, the best breakfast on the island is about a 15-minute drive from the heart of Waikiki. Try the delicious açai bowl, topped with granola, berries and bananas.

3045 Monsarrat Ave.,
bogartscfe.webs.com.

ILLUSTRATION, EMILIE SIMPSON; PHOTOGRAPHY, ISTOCKPHOTO (BOGART'S CAFE, WAIKIKI BEACH, KALAKAUA AVENUE)



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Recipe developer and food stylist Tanya Eng channels a foggy London day with these tea-infused treats.



nothing

reminds us of England more than a hot cup of steeped tea on a blustery March day. Except, perhaps, if that cuppa is enjoyed with a melt-in-your-mouth cookie delicately laced with the distinctive bergamot orange flavour of Earl Grey. Embodying all that's cozy and comforting, such a soothing ritual has an irresistible appeal. Whether you're enjoying your tea and cookies in a bustling Piccadilly shop on a rainy afternoon or sitting by the fire in your own home, the custom is a timeless classic that will never go out of style.

INGREDIENTS

MAKES ABOUT 30 COOKIES

- 1¾ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp loose Earl Grey tea
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 cup slivered almonds
- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- ½ cup icing sugar + more for coating and dusting



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the
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resort
not include
vegetables?



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The wheat bran fibre in All-Bran cereal promotes regularity. 1 1/3 cup (28 g) is a serving of All-Bran Buds* cereal. ©2015, Trademark of Kellogg Company used under license by Kellogg Canada Inc.



STEP BY STEP



DIRECTIONS

PREHEAT THE OVEN TO 350°F. In a blender, process the flour, tea and salt to a fine powder; add the almonds and pulse twice until the mixture resembles a coarse meal; set aside.

IN A STAND MIXER using the paddle attachment, beat the butter and icing sugar on medium until light and fluffy. Reduce the speed to low and gradually add the flour mixture until fully incorporated, scraping down the sides of the bowl between additions.

TRANSFER THE DOUGH onto parchment paper and roll into a 1½" diameter log. Wrap in parchment paper and chill for about 30 minutes, until the dough is firm.

SLICE THE DOUGH into ½"-thick slices and arrange 1" apart on a baking sheet.

BAKE THE COOKIES for 10 to 15 minutes, until the bottoms are lightly golden. Let cool for 2 minutes before tossing the cookies, a few at a time, in a bowl of icing sugar to coat. Dust with the additional icing sugar before serving.



When making by hand
means making a mess,
your hands could use a hand.

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mitchell gold & bob williams

Associate editor and social butterfly Sara Cation rubs elbows with the brightest minds in interior design.



Stark black walls contrasted with a white shag rug and hits of shimmering gold make for a stunning contemporary statement.

Ready, Set, Action!

THIS DIRECTOIRE TIBETAN FUR ARMCHAIR MAY TAKE AFTER THE CLASSIC DIRECTOR'S SEAT, BUT WITH ITS SHAGGY WOOL UPHOLSTERY AND POLISHED BRASS FRAME, IT BELONGS ON THE BIG SCREEN.



Modern Drama

When a couple starts a successful business together but later breaks up, I'd expect the company to follow suit. But Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams proved otherwise. Stepping into their Toronto showroom at Elte, I can easily spot

their clean-lined classics, but I'm dazzled by the Tibetan fur and mixed metals, seeing lots of silver in particular. That's fitting, as the company recently celebrated its silver anniversary. So what's the secret to their success? Read on.

What was the most challenging part of starting the business 26 years ago?

MG: Not having any money. It's really difficult to start a business with a very small amount of capital. But we came out of the gate really fast: We sold 5,000 dining chairs before the first was even in production!

What was your most popular colour at the beginning?

BW: Beige. We sold a lot of beige. We still sell a lot of beige.

Is there a standout piece of furniture from your childhood that influenced you?

BW: There are two pieces. My mom had a big sofa upholstered

in what felt like steel wool. When you sat on it, you didn't dare move – it was so itchy and scratchy. But she also had this corduroy chair that was so soft. The two pieces were at such different ends of the spectrum in terms of how they felt. That's why all our furniture is good to the touch. It's what people notice first about a piece.



The traditional chesterfield sofa, combined with classic white wainscoting and a shiny coffee table, pays homage to the silver screen.

Classic Elegance

A Stately Affair

COMFORT MEETS DARING DESIGN WITH THE COLIN CHAIR, A TIMELESS SCANDI-INSPIRED MASTERPIECE.



Bob Williams (left) and Mitchell Gold stand next to one of their furniture designs in the making.

What's the biggest moment of inspiration from your careers?

BW: When we went to the Marché aux Puces in Paris 20 years ago, we saw these beaten-up leather chairs. That was an epiphany.

MG: Bob and I just looked at each other, then looked at the chairs and said, "That's what we need to do – but in American proportions." Bob literally sat on the ground, on the cement sidewalk, and sketched them. We've now sold more than a million dollars' worth.

Looking back at the past 26 years, what makes you most proud?

MG: Being a positive influence in the community.

BW: When you start a business, you don't think of the ripple effect it will have.

What are some of your more memorable furniture cameos?

MG: Our Andre chair is in the film *The Rock* with Nicolas Cage.

BW: And in *As Good as It Gets*, the only chair Jack Nicholson has in his apartment is our chair!

Plus, of course, your furniture is all over *The Good Wife*!

MG: Yeah, set decorator Beth Kushnick had used our furniture on a few sets, and people would always ask about the pieces on social media. So we thought, Why not do a collection to make it all more accessible?

TURN THE PAGE FOR ASSISTANT EDITOR AND *THE GOOD WIFE* ADDICT BRITTANY DEVENYI'S INTERVIEW WITH SET DECORATOR BETH KUSHNICK.



*Beth
Kushnick*
THE HIT LEGAL
DRAMA'S SET
DECORATOR
TALKS DESIGN,
STYLE AND
INSPIRATION.

What is it about Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams's style that is so well-suited to *The Good Wife*?

They design furniture that's very transitional and works well in a multitude of settings. Each piece acts as the start of your palette, just like picking a neutral paint colour. There's a timeless appeal to it.

How would you describe the show's overall design sensibility?

The look is eclectic and classic. It's also very detailed and inviting – it has really become another character on the show.

What do you need to consider when you're decorating for an audience?

My work is character-driven, so I select decor items that help create a backstory. The process is thought-provoking in a way that differs from furnishing a private residence. What books are in Alicia's bookcase? Where are her linens from? Every detail is meaningful.

Is there a particular scene in the show in which the furniture was especially significant?

When I read the script for the scene in the season three finale where Kalinda is sitting in a chair waiting with a gun in her hand, I immediately knew it had to be a Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams piece. The white leather wingback chair served her character and that script brilliantly.

What's your favourite piece from the collection?

I'm partial to Diane's guest chairs. The look of them and the comfort level is incredible. When you sit down, the chair just hits you in the right spot.

You've sold us. How can we recreate the show's overall design style?

Many people assume that the show's decor is completely out of their grasp, but it's not. Invest in one piece like a Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams sofa, and combine it with high and low items. It's about editing a room instead of taking drastic steps.

IN GOOD COMPANY

Beth Kushnick partnered with Mitchell Gold and Bob Williams to create The Good Wife Collection – the first licensed furniture line in TV history.

Kalinda's Wingback Chair

Kalinda Sharma

The show's third season ended with a bang, as the firm's in-house private investigator was seen clasping a gun while perched in the collection's white wingback chair.



Diane's Barrel Chair

Diane Lockhart

After winning a case, top Chicago lawyer Diane Lockhart is known to clink tumblers of Scotch with a colleague seated in one of the barrel chairs in her office.



Will's Club Chair

Will Gardner

The beloved name partner of Lockhart and Gardner will be forever remembered (and missed!). He'd regularly toss a baseball in the air while ruminating over cases in his plush leather chair.



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HIGH OR LOW

high OR low?





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PHOTOGRAPHY
MICHAEL NANGREAVES

HIGH OR LOW

1 Iron and brass Tig
CHAIR, Crate and Barrel,
crateandbarrel.ca.

\$249

2 Linen Rustic **TEA TOWEL**,
Plain & Simple Home,
plainandsimplehome.com.

\$36

3 Le Parfait glass **JARS**
with metal lids, 1 l, \$8 each,
West Elm, westelm.com.

\$48

4 Sue Paraskeva small asymmet-
rical stoneware and porcelain
BOWLS, \$56 each, Herriott
Grace, herriottgrace.com.

\$168

5 Ateliers des Cent-ans
large porcelain White with
Blue Paint Strokes **SERVING**
BOWL, Mjolk, mjolk.ca.

\$300

6 Stoneware Forest Walk
BOWLS in Ivory, \$16 US each,
Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

\$64

7 Large white ceramic
Animal **CANISTERS**, \$29 each,
West Elm, westelm.com.

\$87

HIGH
\$2,602

\$75

8 Masanobu Ando white
stoneware **SOUP BOWL**,
Mjolk, mjolk.ca.

\$600

9 De Buyer Prima Matera copper
and stainless steel **STEW POT**,
5.5 l, Consiglio's Kitchenware &
Gift, consigliokitchenware.com.

\$78

10 Koizumi Studio Kaico
enamelled steel **MILK PAN** with
wooden handle, 1 l, Plain & Simple
Home, plainandsimplehome.com.

\$115

11 Gordon Ramsay for Royal Doul-
ton porcelain Maze **CASSEROLE**,
2 l, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

\$575

12 Le Creuset enamelled cast-iron
Round **DUTCH OVEN** in Dune, 7 l,
Hudson's Bay, thebay.com.

\$118

13 Uashmama cellulose-fibre
washable paper Vassoio **BAGS**
in Olive and Grey, \$59 each,
Ella & Issa, ellaissa.com.

\$89

14 Uashmama cellulose-fibre
washable paper Carry Two
BASKET in White, Ella & Issa,
ellaissa.com.

HIGH & LOW Aparici Vanguard porcelain Rise Natural **TILES**, 12" x 12", The Tile Store, thetilestore.ca; **BARN DOOR & HARDWARE**, Heritage Harvest Tables, heritageharvesttables.com; Anchor Hocking glass Heritage **CANISTERS**, Kitchen Stuff Plus, kitchenstuffplus.com; Ethiopian Forest **HONEY**, Mjolk, mjolk.ca; Coarse Sea Salt & Five Pepper Blend **SEASONING**, Plain & Simple Home, plainandsimplehome.com.

1 Antiqued zinc-plated iron
Reed **CHAIR**, CB2, cb2.ca.

\$179

2 Cotton **TEA TOWEL**, per pair,
HomeSense, homesense.ca.

\$8

3 Golden Harvest glass **JARS**
with metal lids, 1 l, \$8 each,
Canadian Tire, canadiantire.ca.

\$48

4 Stoneware Wilder
BOWLS, \$12 each, Crate and
Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

\$36

5 Porcelain Como Splash
SERVING BOWL, Crate and
Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

\$17

6 Stoneware Kitt **BOWLS**,
\$7 each, Crate and Barrel,
crateandbarrel.ca.

\$28

7 White painted metal
CANISTERS with lids, \$7 each,
HomeSense, homesense.ca.

\$21

LOW
\$801

\$24

8 Stoneware Costa Nova
SOUP BOWL, Hudson's
Bay, thebay.com.

\$250

9 Le Cuiivre copper and
stainless steel **STOCK POT**, 10 l,
Consiglio's Kitchenware & Gift,
consigliokitchenware.com.

\$50

10 Dansk Kobenstyle enamelled
stainless steel **MILK PAN** in White
with wooden handle, 0.5 l, Crate
and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca.

\$19

11 Bone china Borderline
CASSEROLE, CB2, cb2.ca.

\$99

12 Enamelled cast-iron
DUTCH OVEN in White, 5 l,
West Elm, westelm.com.

\$2

13 Paper **LEAF BAGS**, per
set of 5, The Home Depot,
homedepot.ca.

\$20

14 Canvas and plastic **TOOL**
BUCKET, Princess Auto,
princessauto.com.

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Pure Freude an Wasser





The days of matching sets of pots and pans are done – so cross them off your registry, because it's all about the mix and match. Invest in the pieces you'll use the most and save on the ones you have “just in case” for a collection that's both visually textured and tailored to your needs.

1. MILK PAN Lightweight enamelled stainless steel and a wooden handle make it easy to take straight from stovetop to table.

2. SAUCEPAN All-Clad's high-quality stainless steel is compatible with all types of cooktops, but it's ideal for induction.

3. SAUCE PAN A Le Creuset classic, cast iron retains and distributes heat well.

4. SAUCEPAN Made to match Le Creuset's cast-iron counterpart, this high-quality stainless steel option is much more affordable.

5. DUTCH OVEN This large five-litre Dutch oven is perfect for making meals of potluck proportions.

6. CASSEROLE So-called because it's not made of cast iron (like a Dutch oven), this one is stainless steel.

7. CASSEROLE Made of bone china, this lightweight and inexpensive oven-to-table option can handle only limited exposure to heat.

8. DUTCH OVEN A modest three-litre option is perfect for couples.

9. MILK PAN A wider bottom amplifies the thermal effect, while the lip and spout make it easy to pour, say, a steaming mug of hot cocoa.

1 Dansk Kobenstyle enamelled stainless steel **MILK PAN** in White with wooden handle, 0.5 l, \$50, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca; **2** All-Clad brushed stainless steel D5 **SAUCEPAN**, 2 l, \$150, Consiglio's Kitchenware & Gift, consiglioskitchenware.com; **3** Le Creuset enamelled cast-iron Precision Pour **SAUCEPAN** in Caribbean, 1.5 l, \$280, Hudson's Bay, thebay.com; **4** Le Creuset stainless steel **SAUCEPAN**, 2 l, \$125, Consiglio's Kitchenware & Gift, consiglioskitchenware.com; **5** enamelled cast-iron **DUTCH OVEN** in White, 5 l, \$99, West Elm, westelm.com; **6** Dansk Kobenstyle enamelled stainless steel **CASSEROLE**, 4 l, \$120, Crate and Barrel, crateandbarrel.ca; **7** bone china Borderline **CASSEROLE**, \$19, CB2, cb2.ca; **8** enamelled cast-iron **DUTCH OVEN** in White, 3 l, \$79, West Elm, westelm.com; **9** Koizumi Studio Kaico enamelled steel **MILK PAN** with wooden handle, 1 l, \$78, Plain & Simple Home, plainandsimplehome.com.



CRATE ON WHEELS

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MATERIALS

- 1" x 4" x 8' wooden board
- Vintage wooden crate
- Handsaw
- Wood glue
- Pencil
- 4 casters
- Drill
- 16 bolts
- 32 washers
- 16 nuts

1 Cut the wooden board 2" shorter than the length of the crate; repeat to make two boards of equal size.

2 Turn the crate upside down. Glue the boards lengthwise to either side of the crate's bottom.

3 Mark the holes of the casters on the ends of each board.

4 Drill holes at each mark big enough to fit the bolts.

5 Turn the crate on its side. Line up one caster's holes with those drilled into the crate. Secure it in place by feeding a washer and bolt through the inside of the crate. Tighten from the outside with another washer and nut. Repeat for remaining holes and casters.

Sintered iron **SWIVEL CASTERS**, 2", \$5 each, Princess Auto, princessauto.com.





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HIGH OR LOW

TEA UP & TOWEL OFF

1
SPUN COTTON



4 IRISH LINEN



2
COTTON BLEND



3
VINTAGE LINEN



5 RUSTIC-LOOK LINEN



When picking tea towels, it's not all about a pretty pattern – although, yes, that adds to the allure. It's really about the material you choose. What's worth the investment? What are the best kitchen towels to have at hand? Here's what you should know before you buy.

COTTON TEA TOWELS While offering that chic country-style look, cotton tea towels are among the most absorbent on the market but are typically less expensive, because their lightweight fibres have a shorter lifespan. Want an option that will take on even more moisture when washing dishes? Opt for terry cloth or a waffle or basket weave. Flat-woven cotton can also pill over time, leaving marks on hand-dried glassware, so save cotton tea towels for counter wiping and heavy-duty hand drying (such as for pots and pans).

LINEN TEA TOWELS Linen is one of the most durable fabrics out there. While typically more expensive than cotton, linen tea towels will last much longer. Additionally, linen will remain lint-free, so it's perfect for the more delicate drying (and polishing) required for glassware. Though stiff at first, linen softens over time, making vintage a more desirable option.

1 Spun cotton Wash & Dry, \$24 US per set of 4, 21" x 26", Anthropologie, anthropologie.com; **2** cotton blend, \$8 per set of 2, 18" x 18", HomeSense, homesense.ca; **3** vintage linen, from 12" x 24", \$30 each, Chair Table Lamp, chair-tablelamp.com; **4** Irish linen, 22" x 33", \$18 each, **5** rustic-look linen, 22" x 26", \$36 each, Plain & Simple Home, plainandsimplehome.com.

• a brief history of the • MASON JAR

Nov. 30, 1858, marked a revelation in the world of food preservation with the creation of John Landis Mason's revolutionary jar, making the all-important act of canning much more simple – (historical) housewives rejoice! Originally made of greenish-blue glass, the Mason jar allowed contents to remain visible post-canning for the first time ever, while the screw-cap contraption meant the jars sealed easily as the hot foods inside cooled. Though the Mason name remains synonymous with all jars of this type, Mason himself passed away in poverty after failing to file his patent on time, and competitors replicated the style (I guess you could say he was in a bit of a pickle!).



PHOTOGRAPHY, GETTY IMAGES (MASON JARS)

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New oak floors were sanded and stained on-site and make the main floor feel more spacious. "We chose a rich brown stain that shows off the wood grain, which is typical of older homes," says designer Ali Budd.

DESIGN, Ali Budd Interiors, alibuddinteriors.com; **STOOL**, Elte.

OPPOSITE Ali had wool and silk geometric broadloom carpeting cut to suit the living room's long, narrow shape. "You get the perfect size for half the price of purchasing a rug off the showroom floor," she says. "And perfect proportions are so important."

SOFA & SIDECHEIR FABRIC, Threadcount Textile & Design; **OTTOMAN FABRIC**, Primavera; **SOFA, SIDECHEIR & OTTOMAN UPHOLSTERY**, Cooper Bros.; **ART-WORK**, PI Fine Art; custom **RUG**, lumbar **TOSS CUSHION** with tassels, grey cut-velvet octagon **TOSS CUSHION**, **BASKET**, blue **BOOK**, parrot **SCULPTURE**, Elte.



A HAPPY COMPROMISE

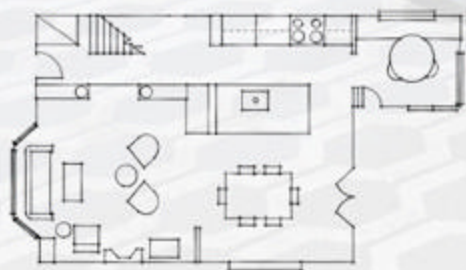
TEXT BETH HITCHCOCK

PHOTOGRAPHY ANGUS FERGUSON

STYLING STACY BEGG

Designer Ali Budd creates a fresh and functional main floor, keeping his and her wish lists top of mind.

THE FLOOR PLAN | 800 SQ. FT.





NO matter how compatible a couple may be, there's something about a renovation that brings out the oil-and-water side of any relationship – in other words, wish lists don't always match. Such was the case with the Toronto newlyweds who enlisted designer Ali Budd of Ali Budd Interiors to help transform the 800-square-foot main floor of their home, including the kitchen. He was using words like “modern,” while she was looking for something more classic.

Before beginning the gut-job reno, Ali asked the couple to collect inspirational images – separately. “Even when one says, ‘Oh, I don’t care,’ they always care,” she says with a laugh. “It’s a great exercise that often yields surprises but helps us pin down the non-negotiables and find common ground.” With everyone on the same design page, they settled on a plan to create an open feel while maintaining the definition of each space. That meant widening the entrance to the living room, and removing



ABOVE White Shaker-style cabinetry was a perfect compromise for the homeowners: traditional yet clean and simple. To keep the kitchen fresh, Ali carried the Caesarstone countertop up the backsplash and chose a sophisticated grey-blue colour for the peninsula.

CABINETRY, California Kitchens; Cloud White CC-40 **CABINETRY PAINT**, Gray 2121-10 **PENINSULA PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; Misty Carrera **COUNTERTOPS & BACKSPLASH**, Caesarstone Canada; **APPLIANCES**, Tasco; **TEAPOT, TEA TOWEL**, HomeSense; **HAND SOAP**, Jacaranda Tree.

RIGHT In keeping with the couple's wishes, Ali (pictured) preserved the dining room's original details like the moulding and curved niche. The chandelier speaks to the wife's traditional tastes, while the shiny metal table base and dining chairs add contemporary edge for the husband.

DINING TABLE, CONSOLE, silver **DISHES**, glass **DECANTERS**, Elte; **DINING CHAIRS**, Ali Budd Interiors; **CHANDELIER**, Royal Lighting; *Honest Ed* (left) and *Les Trois Brasseurs* **ARTWORK** by Chris Albert, Petroff Gallery.





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"A MODERN AESTHETIC HAS TO BE COMFORTABLE AND COZY. YOU HAVE TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN THE HOUSE."

ABOVE "If the space is small, go big on scale," says Ali, referring to the oversized drum pendant light in the breakfast nook. Graphic wallpaper makes the cozy area feel crisp and timeless. A banquette with roomy drawers provides extra storage near the back door.

WALLPAPER, Crown Wallpaper & Fabrics; **DINING TABLE, DINING CHAIRS**, Ali Budd Interiors; custom **BANQUETTE**, Watchtower Interiors; **BANQUETTE FABRIC**, Threadcount Textile & Design; **BANQUETTE UPHOLSTERY**, Cooper Bros.; **PENDANT LIGHT**, Elte; **NAPKINS, MUGS**, Indigo.

RIGHT Ali installed open shelves on the kitchen's pantry wall to allow the homeowners to add personality while keeping the counters relatively clear. Black fittings visually anchor the airy glass pendant lights.

SINK, FAUCET, Taps Bath Centre; **CABINETRY HARDWARE**, Ginger's; **PENDANT LIGHTS**, Union Lighting and Furnishings; *Hay Flower* (top shelf) and *Blue Tower* (above cake stand) **ARTWORK** by Brian McPhee, *Always the Center of Attention* **ARTWORK** (bottom shelf) by Sarah Martin, Canvas Gallery; rabbit **SCULPTURE**, Elte; **PLANTERS**, HomeSense.

dividing walls, smoothing the ceilings and replacing mismatched flooring with dark-stained oak throughout. The couple wanted to preserve the applied-panel moulding in the dining room and soon-to-be breakfast nook, and Ali happily obliged, bringing in contemporary furniture and prints to keep the mood fresh.

The kitchen represents an appetizing blend of the couple's tastes: white Shaker-style cabinetry and a grey-blue peninsula for her; glossy Caesar-stone countertops carried up the backsplash for him. "Ali did an amazing job reconciling our styles," says one of the homeowners. "We especially love the wallpaper in the breakfast nook and the open shelving and large sink in the kitchen."

The marriage of pretty and practical, contemporary and classic is exactly what Ali set out to achieve: "A modern aesthetic has to be comfortable and cozy. You have to be able to live in the house." She also designed with the homeowners' future needs in mind – and it's a good thing, too. Within two months of the renovation's completion, the couple announced the start of a new project: their first baby.



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GLORIOUS
MESSES**



**ALL THE POWER. NONE OF THE
HARSH CHEMICAL FUMES OR RESIDUE.**

f GREENWORKSCANADA



TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES | PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH



OPPOSITE The vintage storage unit and artwork made by homeowner and designer Montana Labelle greet guests in the loft's entryway. Antique books and other eclectic *objets* hint at the quirky style in the rest of the space.

DESIGN, Montana Labelle, montana-labelle.com; gold **BOWL**, Ribbehege & Azevedo.

LEFT Montana hangs out in the living area of her Toronto loft.

SOFA, Statum Designs; blue and white **BOWL**, Elte.

LOFTY AMBITIONS

Designer Montana Labelle decorates her loft with a fashion-forward eclectic aesthetic that fits her personal style to a T.

It's often said that interior design follows fashion, and this certainly holds true in the Toronto loft of designer Montana Labelle. In fact, she takes this idea one step further by using her enviable collection of fashion accessories as part of the decor.

In the 700-square-foot condo, Montana spun her storage issues into something positive. "Since there's a lack of closet space, I made the loft feel like a retail environment by displaying my clothing," she says. "I bought an antique chinoiserie-style armoire from Craigslist and filled it with my favourite vintage T-shirts, designer handbags and

heels." The result is like waking up and getting dressed in a high-end boutique every morning.

The 14-foot-high ceilings also make the home seem much more spacious. (It was one of the features that sealed the deal when Montana was looking for a condo.) Since moving in, she's taken advantage of the ceiling height by filling the walls with artwork. "I had a lot of fun with the art, and because I needed so much of it, I had to be budget conscious. I love creating originals and sourcing one-of-a-kind pieces." Case in point is Ralph, the papier mâché zebra bust she purchased →



LEFT Retro finds like the coffee table and media console lend a collected and personal look to the living area. Pops of bright colour come from Montana's collection of orange Hermès boxes. A hide rug layered over a vintage rabbit fur rug gives the space a luxe comfort.

DRAPERY, Restoration Hardware; hide **RUG**, bronze gazelle **SCULPTURE** (on media console), **BOXES** (on coffee table), Ribbehege & Azevedo; black shagreen **BOX**, Flair.



ABOVE An eclectic grouping of artwork – including a skull print by Jenna Snyder-Phillips, papier mâché zebra bust and prized Hermès scarf – hangs above the sofa in the living area.

Zebra **ANIMAL HEAD**, Morba; skull **ART-WORK**, Flair.

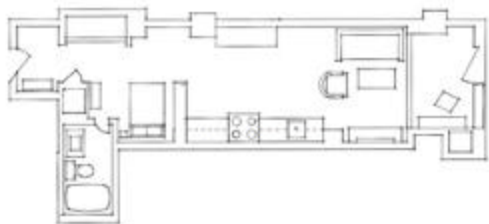
LEFT The brightly lit sunroom acts as Montana's home office, where she does a lot of work for her design business. The super-slim desk takes up minimal square footage in the small room. A bold red vintage "M" was a lucky find at one of her favourite Toronto shops. She made the edgy artwork by blacking out half of an antique portrait.

CHAIR, Machine Age Modern; vintage "M" **LETTER**, Absolutely.

THE FLOOR PLAN

Homeowner and designer Montana Labelle used stylish vignettes to delineate the different areas in her narrow open-concept condo.

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SQ. FT.



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Breathe Happy

DECORATING / loft living



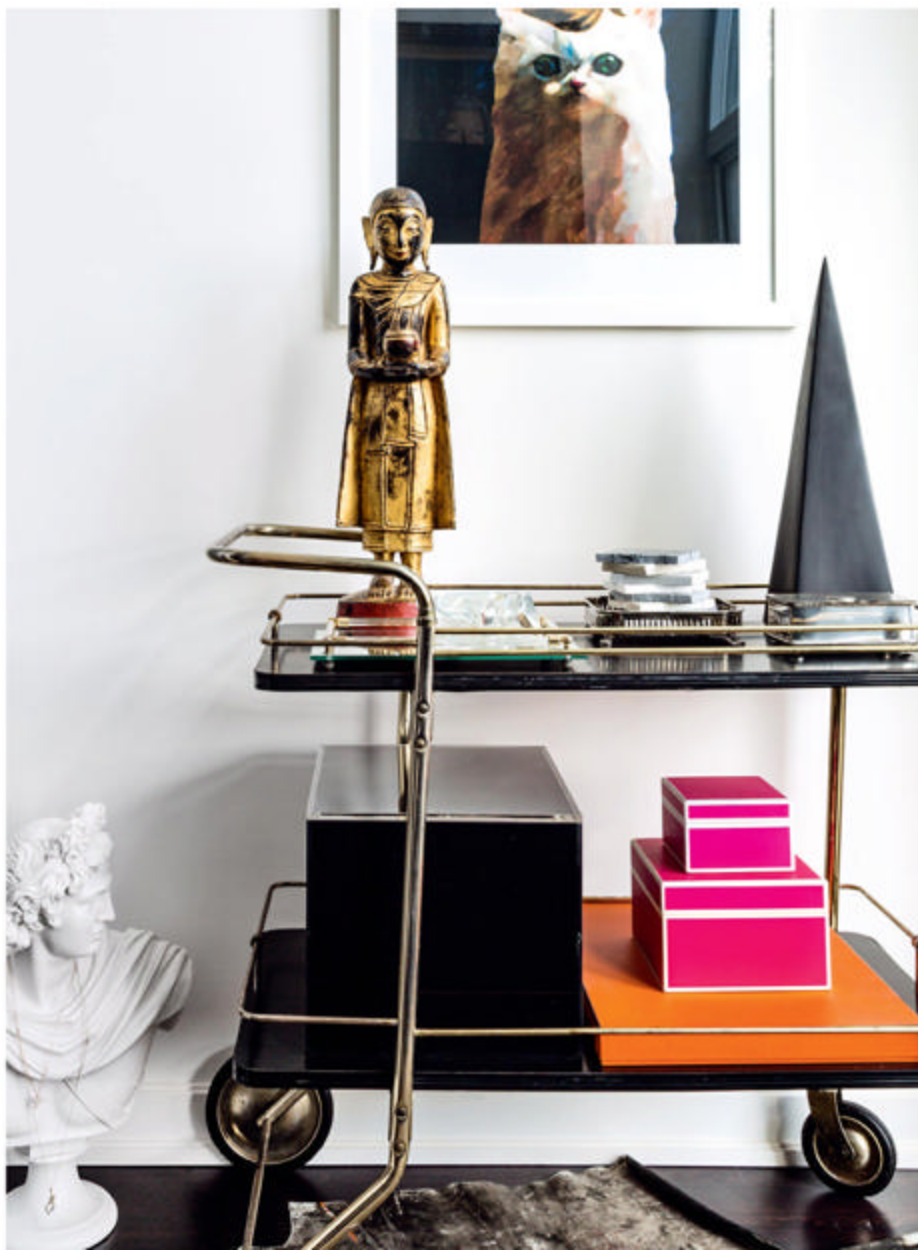
LEFT The long, narrow loft includes an entryway, galley kitchen and living area.

Vintage **ARMCHAIR**, Decorum Decorative Finds.

BELOW An antique cabinet placed across from the kitchen offers plenty of storage (and display space) for Montana's favourite designer fashion accessories.

BELOW, LEFT The vintage Art Deco bar cart in the office gets pressed into service during cocktail parties and offers extra storage the rest of the time. The antique leather hide on the floor was purchased from the Christie Antique Show.

Vintage **BAR CART**, Decorum Decorative Finds; Buddha **STATUE**, Ribbehege & Azevedo; **BUST**, Elite.



inexpensively. He hangs above the living room sofa and lends quirky character to the space's modern aesthetic. "Because he was the first thing I put up on the walls, Ralph dictated the whimsical look for the rest of the condo," says Montana.

Now that her loft is furnished and decorated, she finds that it's truly a reflection of her personal style. "My uniform consists of ripped jeans and basic T-shirts, layered with a leather motorcycle jacket and some great accessories," Montana explains. "I totally relate this to my home's mostly neutral palette with exotic accents and unexpected textures, which impart a sense of casual cool." We're definitely picking up on that vibe here. (And coveting her collection of Chanel bags.)

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

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06803940

LEFT Designer Ramsin Khachi created a new spiral staircase with a more gradual descent, placing it in the middle of the living space (rather than close to the wall) to delineate the dining area and add drama. Stamped-metal dining chairs and a glass barn-style pendant light amplify the industrial vibe of this open-concept loft.

DESIGN, CONTRACTING, Khachi Design Group, khachi.com; Balboa Mist OC-27 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Kendall Charcoal HC-166 **FEATURE WALL & CEILING PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; Braille **DECORATIVE PANELS**, Wall Flats; **DINING TABLE, DINING CHAIRS, PENDANT LIGHT**, Restoration Hardware; vinyl **FLOORING**, Tandus Centiva; **TASK LAMP, THROW**, Elte.

WYLDE THING

A designer makes good on a long-ago promise to create the perfect retro-industrial look for a radio personality's first home.

TEXT WENDY HELFENBAUM | PHOTOGRAPHY STACEY BRANDFORD | STYLING ANN MARIE FAVOT

Modern *living*

Downtown living may mean closer quarters, but you don't have to sacrifice an inch of style or comfort. Keep your modern, sophisticated style and boost your small-space savvy with these inspired furniture strategies.



Soft Options

An upholstered ottoman can serve as extra seating when those unexpected guests crash your cocktail party.

LESS IS MORE

A little pattern goes a long way in a small space, so save the bold prints for a statement-making occasional chair and pillows. Choose timeless, trend-proof fabrics for larger upholstered pieces, like sofas and loveseats.

CLEAR WINNERS

Counter the visual weight of a sofa by pairing it with a series of barely-there accent tables. Glass-topped, open-based coffee and side tables are an airy alternative to solid wood, and a mirrored chest contributes to the sense of openness, creating the illusion of extra space.

COLOUR CUES

A cohesive colour palette is important in any home, but absolutely critical when the square footage slips below four figures. Consider using a multi-hued area rug as a jumping-off point for your room's colour scheme, pulling individual colours from the pattern as upholstery fabric for key furnishings.

LONG DIVISION

Carve zones out of open-concept layouts with eye-catching area rugs. It's a subtler way of defining the boundary between a shared living/dining room than a folding screen or piece of furniture.

TUFT LOVE

Button-tufting is an elegant design detail that brings depth and interest to an expanse of solid-colour upholstery.

Nail the Scale

Choose an area rug large enough that it extends beyond the front legs of the sofa and surrounding chairs.



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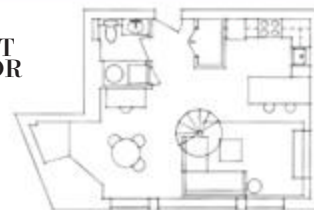


THE FLOOR PLAN

On the main level, a peninsula separates the kitchen from the living area, while the staircase visually delineates the dining space.

475
SQ. FT.

FIRST FLOOR



WHEN Adam Wylde (co-host of the popular *Blake & Wylde* radio show and son of TV and radio personality Marilyn Denis) was 14, he asked family friend and designer Ramsin Khachi for a favour. “He made me promise that I would design his place when he bought one,” recalls the in-house consultant on *The Marilyn Denis Show*.

So when Adam found a 755-square-foot loft with spectacular views and a hip industrial vibe in Toronto’s King East Design District, he brought Ramsin to see it. “It was a purple mess,” recalls Adam, referring to the floor-to-ceiling eggplant-coloured walls and unfortunate 1980s finishes. “But it had so much potential, and I couldn’t get a view like that anywhere else in the city.” Ramsin agreed and took on the challenge of making the space match Adam’s relaxed style of living.

PHOTOGRAPHY, ROY TIMM (PORTRAIT)

ABOVE “I used to live in an old cigarette factory, and I just love that style,” says homeowner Adam Wylde, who adores his industrial loft look. In the living area, the vintage teak console – propped up on cement blocks – holds his treasures: an antique radio, vinyl records and a retro tangerine phone (that used to belong to Adam’s grandpa), providing a rare pop of colour.

SECTIONAL, Stylegarage; **LIGHT FIXTURE**, Mercana Art Decor; glass **BOWL**, geometric **TOSS CUSHION**, Elte.

RIGHT Old friends Ramsin (left) and Adam share a laugh.

FAR RIGHT Ramsin was careful not to overstock Adam’s loft. A clean-lined workspace tucked beside the dining area displays a few of Adam’s collectibles. The framed \$2 and \$20 bills were a present from his mom. “When I was little, I told her I wanted to frame the bills to show my kids one day, so she did it to surprise me,” says Adam.

CHAIR, Restoration Hardware; **TASK LAMP**, Elte.



Raw steel floating shelves and vintage-look brick cladding balance the sleek high-gloss cabinetry in the kitchen. With durable quartz countertops, "Adam can make all the mess he wants," says Ramsin with a laugh.

CABINETS, RUNNER, IKEA; COUNTERTOPS, Cambria; BACKSPLASH TILES, Ceragres; LIGHT FIXTURES, Restoration Hardware.

"IT WAS A
PURPLE MESS.
BUT IT HAD SO
MUCH POTENTIAL,
AND I COULDN'T GET
A VIEW LIKE
THAT ANYWHERE
ELSE IN THE CITY."





ABOVE “The master bedroom was open to downstairs, with hideous 1980s railings, so we custom made old factory windows to enclose the space but still keep it feeling bright and airy,” says Ramsin.

STOOL, Designer Inspired Interiors; **SCONCE**, Restoration Hardware.

RIGHT The main-floor powder room previously housed a washer and dryer, making the door hard to open. Ramsin closed off the laundry area and added another door beside the powder room entrance to make the machines accessible from the hallway.

COUNTERTOP, Cambria; **SINK**, **FAUCET**, Kohler; **SCONCE**, Restoration Hardware.

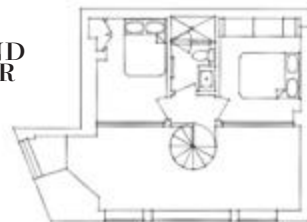


THE FLOOR PLAN

Previously open to the downstairs, the master bedroom was closed off to provide privacy.

280
SQ. FT.

SECOND FLOOR



Adam entertains often, so Ramsin gutted and upgraded the tiny builder-grade kitchen. He installed ceiling-height high-gloss grey cabinetry along one wall and then carried the glossy look throughout the kitchen.

“The challenge with small spaces is to make them flow into each other,” says Ramsin, who had the ceilings in the kitchen and living and dining areas painted charcoal grey to unify the space and connect the loft’s disparate ceiling heights.

An industrial counterbalance to the sleek kitchen, the pair of old locomotive engineer’s stools were a versatile choice: They can swing out from under the peninsula to double as living room seating. “I’m a history nerd to the core,” says Adam. “I loved steam locomotives and trains growing up, and the fact that these came from one is the coolest thing.”

Laying planks of vinyl flooring that look like reclaimed wood directly on top of the loft’s existing ceramic tile was a hard-wearing worry-free solution. The cost-saving move also allowed Ramsin to splurge on replacing the steep winding staircase with a wider one that offers a more gradual descent and better suits the main floor’s layout.

A mix of modern and retro elements evokes a timeless feel, while the funky “braille wall” makes a dramatic focal point in the living area in lieu of artwork. “Because my loft is a corner unit with soaring ceilings, the layout is kind of strange, and it’s hard to find places to put pieces of art and knick-knacks,” says Adam. But Ramsin was sure to find a place front and centre on the media console for one of Adam’s prized possessions (one that represents his personality to boot): the 100-year-old Stewart Warner radio that he bought to commemorate his first steady on-air job.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

THE AWAKENING

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- Alicia, web review

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MARCH 2015



A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

Making the most of a white space is like creating a meal from scratch. You gather your ingredients, measure them out, blend thoroughly, season to taste and savour the results. The trick is that each homeowner, just like every chef, has his or her own secret for making the interior individually inspiring and endlessly delicious.



the
**WHITE
STUFF**

TEXT LAURA MUIR

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL GRAYDON

STYLING CHRISTINE HANLON

In the dining room, wainscoting and herringbone floors are juxtaposed with a clean-lined marble and clear-lacquered raw steel table surrounded by iconic Mid-Century Modern Eames chairs. The white linen drum pendant lights, lined in a brass colour, add drama.

CONTRACTING, Delin Build; Oxford White CC-30 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; custom **DINING TABLE BASE**, Ironman; custom marble **DINING TABLE TOP**, Stone Depot; Eames **DINING CHAIRS**, Grasshopper **TABLE LAMP**, Design Within Reach; **CONSOLE**, Elte; custom **PENDANT LIGHTS**, Eric & Susan; *Expectations-WS* **ARTWORK** by Tek Yang, Art Interiors; Iittala Alvar Aalto Collection white **VASES**, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture.

A Toronto couple proves that a mostly white interior can be both stylish and family friendly, while also suiting modern and traditional aesthetics.



RIGHT The all-white kitchen features Shaker-style cabinetry, stainless steel appliances, ceramic subway tiles, a custom range hood and brass touches. The couple loves the look of marble, but chose low-maintenance engineered quartz countertops instead.

Custom **CABINETRY, RANGE HOOD & FLOATING SHELVES**, Altima Kitchens; Oxford White

CC-30 **CABINETRY PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; **COUNTER-TOPS**, Caesarstone Canada; **BACKSPLASH TILES**, Saltillo Imports; **RANGE**, Tasco; **SINKS, FAUCETS**, Taps Bath Centre; **ROMAN BLIND FABRIC**, Designer Fabrics; **ROMAN BLIND SEWING**, Gail Leger; **STOOLS**, Restoration Hardware; **SCONCE**, Elte; campaign **PULLS**, P.E. Guerin; **KNOBS**, Hardware Hut; faux **SHEEP-SKINS**, black **TRAY**, IKEA; white **RUSSIAN DOLLS**, white **SALAD BOWL**, Elte.



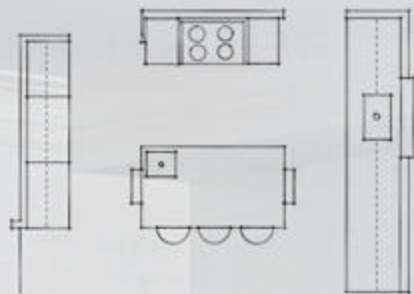
FOR A BUSY FAMILY

with three young children, living in a mostly white interior may seem more like a pipe dream than a practical reality. But not for this Toronto couple. When the homeowners built their 2,400-square-foot Georgian-style house two years ago, creating something kid friendly was a huge priority. And, for the wife, that never meant compromising her love of white. "White makes me feel good. Everything's so bright; everything's vibrant," she says.

Five years ago, when the couple had their second child, they figured it was time to move somewhere that better accommodated their growing family. "We were specifically looking for something we could tear down," says one of the homeowners. What they found was a bungalow



FLOOR PLAN



THE 411

ON THIS ALL-WHITE KITCHEN

OVERALL STYLE

White + more white = casual sophistication.

FAVOURITE FEATURE

The custom-made range hood. After a tedious search for a white model, the couple asked the cabinetmaker to craft one to match the cabinetry.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Fitting everything they wanted into the maximum square footage they could build.

MOST BUDGET-FRIENDLY PURCHASE

The brass knobs that needed to match the more expensive pulls. "A colleague helped me find them, and they were only \$7 a pop," says one of the homeowners.

BEST SPLURGE

The black-framed windows.



Remy
BAR STOOL
in Matte White,
\$199 US, Restoration Hardware,
rh.com.

KEY ELEMENTS

Oxford White
CC-30 **PAINT**,
Benjamin Moore,
benjaminmoore.ca.

In the family room, elements like the hide sling chair, patterned toss cushions and sculptural coffee table lend interest and warmth. The couple created a large kid-friendly (not to mention durable and easy-to-clean) rug out of carpet tiles.

Custom **SECTIONAL**, Belfioré Collection; Atlas **COFFEE TABLE**, Design Within Reach; hide **SLING CHAIR**, Elte; *White Chair* (left) and *No Passe* **ARTWORK** by Maureen O'Connor, Art Interiors; cross **THROW**, Spearmint Love; chevron **TOSS CUSHION**, CC DeuxVie; triangle-patterned **TOSS CUSHIONS**, Zana Products.

OPPOSITE, TOP Open to the kitchen, the family room leads to an outdoor deck through stunning black-framed glass doors. "I think those are the showstoppers," says one of the homeowners. "From the beginning, we had that vision, and we wanted the black to really play off the white walls."

DOORS, Ridley Windows & Doors; **FLOOR LAMPS**, Elte; **KIDS' TABLE**, cowhide **POUFFE**, cowhide **RUG**, IKEA; **CARPET TILES**, Flor.





BELOW Built-in cabinets and shelving in the family room offer a spot to tuck away toys, electronics and firewood, and display artwork and accessories. A collection of Andy Warhol-inspired Campbell's soup cans and a beach photograph provide pops of colour.

Eames Walnut **STOOL**, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture; beach **ARTWORK**, Gray Malin; black **BOXES**, IKEA; gold sphere **OBJECTS**, West Elm.

with a private drive and a good-sized lot in a historic east-end Toronto neighbourhood. They lived in the bungalow for a year during the planning and permit process. Then, as luck would have it, they came across a two-bedroom apartment just down the road, where they stayed for eight months while the new house was being constructed.

Though it was imperative that they design a structure that blend with the area's architectural style, their two-storey brick home features both timeless character and modern-day convenience. "We wanted a place that we'd look at in 10 years and still like the shell," says one of the homeowners. So the couple added traditional millwork, including wainscoting, wide crown moulding and a coffered ceiling in the family room.

The intriguing juxtaposition of old and new is showcased in all aspects, from the decorating to the flow. On the main floor, for example, the couple created a unique configuration that boasts both the old-school functionality of separate rooms (the dining room accommodates more formal dinner parties, and the study acts as a quiet, private area) and the contemporary convenience of open-concept spaces (the big, open family room and kitchen serve as the hub of the home).

The interior's sophisticated look – modern furnishings, contrasting black elements, playful accessories and hits of colour all set against a white background – was partly inspired by the Paris apartments of today. "They have these gorgeous tall ceilings with wonderful mouldings, and then they have Mid-Century Modern pieces in them," says one of the homeowners. "That's timeless. Twenty years from now, that furniture will still be iconic and those mouldings will be just as beautiful." And we're sure that this stunning home will likewise stand the test of time.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK



CLASSIC & CONTEMPORARY

SEEING THE *white*

After 15 years of working at *Style at Home*, art director Karen Paddon finally gets her very own white kitchen with an enduring style that perfectly suits her family of four.

TEXT MARY LEVITSKI | PHOTOGRAPHY DONNA GRIFFITH

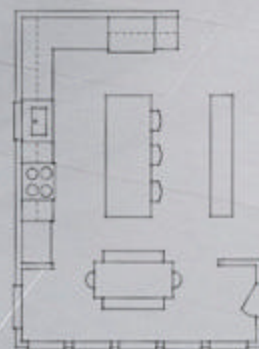




Homeowner and *Style at Home* art director Karen Pad-don's bright white kitchen is the epitome of timeless style.

CONTRACTING, KITCHEN INSTALLATION, through IKEA Installation Services, Sektion/Bodbyn **CABINETRY**, Caesarstone quartz **COUNTERTOPS** in Bliz-zard, through IKEA, **APPLIANCES** (throughout), Glenn **STOOLS**, Ranarp **PENDANT LIGHTS**, glass **VASES**, IKEA; White Dove OC-17 **WALL, CEILING & TRIM PAINT**, Benjamin Moore.

FLOOR PLAN





Tyler enjoys breakfast with little brother Ryan in the eat-in area. Karen doesn't have to worry about spills, thanks to the easy-wipe plastic chairs and hard-wearing fabric she chose for the bench cushions.

Ingatorp **DINING TABLE** (painted), Reidar **DINING CHAIRS**, Sigurd **BENCHES**, IKEA; Kendall Charcoal HC-166 **DINING TABLE PAINT**, Benjamin Moore; **DINING TABLE PAINTING**, Benjamin Furniture Refinishing; Tourbillon **WALL-PAPER** in BP4806, Farrow & Ball; **WALLPAPER INSTALLATION**, Finer Edge Painting & Improvements; custom Neo Toile **BENCH CUSHIONS** in Indigo, Tonic Living.

Style at Home art director Karen Paddon knows a timeless white kitchen when she sees one. Unfortunately, the one in her Brooklin, Ont., house did not fit the profile. “Yes, it had all-white cabinets,” says Karen, “but they were creaky and dysfunctional.” The cracked blue floor tiles, green laminate countertops and brown wall paint cemented the 2001 build as decidedly dated. So she and husband Eric turned to one of Karen’s colleagues, design editor Stacy Begg, to transform the 350-square-foot space. Stacy’s biggest challenge? The pristine room had to stand up to the couple’s sons, Tyler, 5, and Ryan, 2.

The overhaul of the cooking and dining space began with a tweak to the layout. Stacy expanded the cabinetry a few feet into the roomy eat-in area, allowing for an ample nine-foot-long island that’s full of storage and seats four. Karen didn’t want to run around yelling “don’t touch!” so she chose finishes that could handle everyday wear and tear, such as durable white Caesarstone countertops and low-maintenance grey porcelain floor tiles. To impart a fun, edgy vibe and break up all the white, Stacy brought in a graphic herringbone marble mosaic for the backsplash and a swirly designer wallpaper for the eat-in area.

“I absolutely adore it!” says Karen of the new youthful family-friendly space. “And I have no doubt that I’ll love it just as much 10 years from now.” That’s what we call style with serious staying power.



ABOVE & TOP RIGHT Karen’s classic white cabinets look custom made, but they’re from IKEA’s latest collection of prefab units, Sektion. Dividers made to fit the spacious drawers, handy lit drawers within drawers and

mock drawer fronts hiding pull-out waste bins make this an organized space. Custom details like the marble herringbone backsplash and coordinating chevron paneling on either end of the island add bespoke appeal.

SteelArt stainless steel Radius **SINK**, pull-down Harmony **FAUCET** in Stainless Steel, Blanco; **CABINETRY HARDWARE** (throughout), Lee Valley Tools; **RUNNER**, HomeSense; Staub **DUTCH OVEN**, Hudson’s Bay; glass **BOTTLE** (on windowsill), white **PEPPER MILL** (by range), **UTENSILS** (in holder), IKEA.



ABOVE Sitting pretty atop a bank of drawers that was made to look like a dresser, an ersatz bar is ready to serve drop-in guests. This counter also offers extra prep space.

WINEGLASSES, IKEA.

Karen had her heart set on white appliances, but an out-of-stock microwave drove her to go for all stainless steel instead. She says it's for the best: "All the white would have been too much of a good thing." The herringbone backsplash

was custom made with Carrara and Oriental White marble after the chevron style she coveted was discontinued.

BACKSPLASH TILES, FLOOR TILES, Creekside Tile; grey **BOWL, CUTTING BOARD,** Elite.





Overlooking the backyard, the bank of windows in the eat-in area is adorned with grasscloth-like Hunter Douglas Roman shades. They can scroll top-down or bottom-up at the touch of a button, “which is

perfect for keeping an eye on Tyler when he’s playing outside,” says Karen.

Vignette Modern **ROMAN SHADES** with Sahara fabric in Oasis (throughout), Hunter Douglas; Altamont **PENDANT LIGHT**, Hudson Valley Lighting.

PLAN A VS. PLAN B

WHEN THE RENO GODS WEREN'T ON HOMEOWNER KAREN PADDON'S SIDE, SHE GOT CREATIVE.

BACKSPLASH

PLAN A Buy a pre-made chevron marble mosaic backsplash.

PLAN B The style was discontinued, so the supplier custom made a similar herringbone version.



LIGHTING

PLAN A Order a pair of lights online to go over the island.

PLAN B When only one arrived, Karen hung it in the eat-in area and got replacements for the island.



BULKHEADS

PLAN A Remove the bulkheads.

PLAN B The option proved too pricey. Instead, she painted them white so they'd blend into the cabinetry and ceiling.



SLEEK & SOPHISTICATED

LET
THERE
BE

white

A real estate developer's modern home – boasting a city-chic kitchen – is the essence of sleek serenity.



The kitchen's two-level island offers opportunities to sit both bar and table height. The streamlined seating perfectly suits the white Corian countertops and unadorned cabinetry.

ARCHITECTURE, Audax Architecture; **CONTRACTING**, Green-Gold Construction; Super White PM-1 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; Scavolini **CABINETS**, Dekla; **FLOORING** (throughout), Relative Space; Eames **DINING CHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; white **NESTING TRAYS**, Elte.

THE 411

ON THIS ALL-WHITE KITCHEN

OVERALL STYLE

White + sleek, stylish elements = modern Scandinavian.

FAVOURITE FEATURE

The open-concept plan, which makes the kitchen easy to navigate.

BIGGEST CHALLENGE

Perfectly lining up the countertop and backsplash so that the structural glass railings would fit seamlessly. "When it all came together, it looked wonderful, but if anything was slightly off, it would have been a disaster," says Jonathan.

MOST BUDGET-FRIENDLY PURCHASE

The large stainless steel sink was less expensive but identical in quality to some of the top brands.

BEST SPLURGE

The full-height glass-front Sub-Zero integrated wine fridge, which fits 147 bottles.

KEY ELEMENTS



Magis Steelwood **COUNTER STOOL** in Natural & White, \$499, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture, quasimodomodern.com.

Super White PM-1 **PAINT**, Benjamin Moore, benjamin-moore.ca.

Punches of canary yellow make a sunny scene and break up the monochromatic palette in the kitchen. The upper cabinetry comprises boxes reminiscent of geometric artist Piet Mondrian – some rectangles are jaunty yellow while others are a wood

tone that riffs off the grey oak plank flooring.

Magis **STOOLS**, Quasi Modo Modern Furniture; **GLASS-WARE**, Williams-Sonoma.

OPPOSITE "I was able to create a place exactly as I wanted it to be," says homeowner Jonathan Goldman, pictured in his Toronto house.





Everyone has an opinion about all-white interiors – and by white, we mean crisp enough to camouflage those famous Royale kittens.

While all-white decor makes some people want to splash the walls with colour, others find it calming. Jonathan Goldman, a Toronto real estate developer, sees white as the perfect backdrop for his lifestyle: super-contemporary and super-tidy. “You have to be a very clean person to live with all this white,” says Jonathan, a triathlete who shares his newly renovated 3,700-square-foot home with a collection of bicycles.

He moved into this detached split-level abode in 2013 from an old Victorian that he also gutted. “I don’t mind moving,” says Jonathan. He gets great satisfaction from overhauling a space while respecting the original builder’s vision. “I don’t think of it in terms of going modern or traditional,” he says. “I go for the best version of what’s there.”

Before the redo, the house was a ’70s relic, complete with



the space was once divided into three small rooms due to a pass-through, but Jonathan had that knocked down during the reno. Now, sleek white lower cabinetry runs seamlessly along one entire wall toward the picture window in the dining area, which floods the kitchen with natural light. A beautiful matte Corian backsplash and countertops finish off the look. "I staggered the levels of the island so that it's both bar and table height," says Jonathan. The streamlined kitchen looks so sparse you wouldn't expect it to be outfitted with hidden recycling and garbage bins, double wall

ovens, a gas range, a flat-screen TV, a dishwasher and a full-height wine fridge.

But don't let the sleekness fool you, says Jonathan of the space's overall aesthetic. "I like super-modern design, but I also like having a real fire." Indeed, seeing him in his home, slightly bearded and in jeans, one can envision the person responsible for chopping then stacking the logs in the floor-to-ceiling nook next to the living room fireplace. So, he's a real estate developer, designer, triathlete and lumberjack? Just like an all-white house with ample personality, people can really surprise you.

peachy-beige carpeting. It felt dark, choppy and cluttered, but Jonathan saw its potential. Leaving the building's unique seven split levels intact, he had one level stripped to the bones to create a bright spacious open kitchen and dining room. Looking down from the top level – the master bedroom – one gets an impressive yet stomach-churning view to the bottom floor, some 50 feet down.

The interior design itself is Jonathan's own doing, right down to the details: from picking the finishes and furnishings to ensuring there was an iPad hanging in the foyer so he can immediately access his sound system when he walks through the front door.

The result is a resplendent modern home, which is best toured at a museum-goer's pace. Stop to admire the open-concept Scavolini kitchen and Mid-Century Modern dining area, located just a few steps up from the front entrance. Occupying the entire floor,



"I LIKE SUPER-MODERN DESIGN,
*but I also
like having
a real fire."*

Mid-Century Modern furnishings, including Wassily armchairs and a Barcelona lounge, look classically elegant in the sunken living room on the lowest level. To keep the space sharply black and white (not soot grey), the entire wall around the fireplace is protected with an innovative thin ceramic architectural surface called Laminam.

Laminam ceramic **ARCHITECTURAL SURFACE**, Stone Tile International; Barcelona **LOUNGER**, Wassily **ARMCHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; cowhide **RUG**, Elte.

OPPOSITE, TOP Jonathan kitted out the kitchen with a full-height wine fridge. "I really love

it," he says. "How could I build this kitchen without it?" Beyond, on the next level, a compact office nook is functional yet unobtrusive.

WINE FRIDGE, Sub-Zero and Wolf; Ghost **CHAIR**, Elte.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM

A large picture window floods the ethereal dining area with light. White walls are minimally adorned with a trio of shadow boxes filled with 150-year-old French pieces, including a corkscrew, razor and menu. The dowel-legged Eames chairs bring the warmth of wood to the space.

Saarenen **DINING TABLE**, Eames **DINING CHAIRS**, Design Within Reach; black **CANDLESTICKS**, Elte.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK



heads UP!

Zesty garlic, with its heart-healthy benefits and powerful flavour, is perfect for adding some much-needed zing to the last days of winter.

RECIPES & FOOD STYLING CLAIRE STUBBS

PHOTOGRAPHY EDWARD POND

PROP STYLING LARA MCGRAW



*garlic, rapini &
roasted squash pasta*



GARLIC, RAPINI & ROASTED SQUASH PASTA

PREP & COOK TIME 1 HOUR | SERVES 4

Casarecce is a sort of twisted, scroll-shaped pasta. It and gemelli, which consists of short, intertwined strands of pasta, are perfect for thick dishes like this. Their nooks and crannies grab and hold sauce to give you more flavour in every bite.

- ¼ cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 3 cloves garlic, very thinly sliced
- 1 fresh Thai chili, finely chopped (or ½ tsp chili flakes)
- 1 small butternut squash, peeled and chopped into ¾" pieces
- 1 lb uncooked casarecce or gemelli pasta
- 1 bunch rapini, stems removed, chopped
- Zest of 1 lime
- 1 cup firm ricotta cheese
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste

Preheat the oven to 375°F. Heat the olive oil in a small skillet over medium-high heat. Add the garlic and chili and cook for 1 to 2 minutes, until the mixture is fragrant and the garlic is lightly golden. Remove from the heat and set aside.

Place the squash on a baking sheet and cover with 1 tablespoon of the garlic-chili oil, tossing to coat. Roast in the preheated oven for 30 to 35 minutes, until the squash is tender and beginning to brown. Remove the baking sheet from the oven, cover with foil to keep warm and set aside.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook the pasta for 10 to 12 minutes or according to the package directions. During the last 2 minutes of cooking time, add the chopped rapini to the pot and cook along with the pasta. Drain the pasta and rapini together in a large colander and return both to the pot.

Stir the remaining garlic-chili oil, reserved roasted butternut squash and lime zest into the pasta. Break up the ricotta into chunks and carefully stir through the pasta mixture. Season to taste with sea salt and black pepper and serve immediately.

ROASTED GARLIC

PREP & COOK TIME 1 HOUR | MAKES 4

Remove the roasted garlic cloves from their papery skins and spread them on slices of toasted baguette, or squeeze them out, mash



roasted garlic



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DAIRY GOODNESS.
GUILT NOT INCLUDED.**

**PHILLY LIGHT HAS 70% LESS FAT
THAN BUTTER PER SERVING.***

*At least 70% less fat in 15 g of Spreadable Philadelphia Light Cream Cheese Product than 10 g of butter.



PHILLY UP.

A top-down view of a light blue ceramic bowl filled with a creamy, pale yellow soup. The soup is garnished with a cluster of golden-brown croutons, small green thyme sprigs, and a drizzle of yellow olive oil. The bowl sits on a white tablecloth with a colorful pattern of blue, yellow, and green floral or leaf-like shapes. A wooden spoon and a whole carrot are partially visible in the background.

roasted parsnip & pear soup

with a fork and use them for cooking. They're great stirred into buttery mashed potatoes, gravies or hearty soups.

- 4 heads garlic
- 2 tsp extra-virgin olive oil
- Pinch sea salt
- 4 fresh thyme sprigs, stems removed

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Peel away any loose skin from the garlic. With a sharp knife, slice through each garlic head, removing about ¼" of the top, so the tips of the cloves are exposed.

Place the garlic heads upright on a piece of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Drizzle the garlic with the olive oil, then sprinkle with the salt and thyme. Fold the foil over to create a tightly sealed envelope and place directly on the middle oven rack. Roast for 1 hour, until the cloves are sweet and caramelized. Serve immediately.

ROASTED PARSNIP & PEAR SOUP

PREP & COOK TIME **1¼ HOURS** | SERVES **4 TO 6**

Thyme delivers a subtle, earthy flavour that's a perfect accompaniment to the heartier ingredients in this soup.

- 1 lb parsnips, peeled and chopped into 1" chunks
- 1 pear, peeled, cored and cut into 4 wedges
- 1 small white onion, chopped
- 8 whole cloves garlic, peeled
- 2 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp sea salt
- ½ tsp freshly ground black pepper
- 4 cups vegetable broth, divided
- 2 tbsp white balsamic vinegar
- 1 cup whole wheat croutons
- 1 tbsp chopped fresh thyme

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Place the parsnips, pear, onion, garlic, olive oil, salt and pepper in a large roasting pan and toss until well combined. Place the pan in the preheated oven and roast the mixture for 45 to 50 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the parsnips are tender and caramelized.

Remove the pan from the oven and pour 1 cup of the broth over the roasted vegetable mixture; stir, scraping up any caramelized bits that have stuck to the bottom.

Purée the roasted mixture in small batches in a blender or food processor along with the remaining 3 cups vegetable broth and the vinegar. Strain the mixture into a large pot and heat thoroughly over medium-high heat. Transfer the soup to bowls and garnish with the whole wheat croutons and thyme, drizzling with additional olive oil if desired. Serve the soup immediately.



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budget-friendly wines

Wine expert Angela Aiello shares five tips for buying awesome inexpensive wines.



LOOK FOR UNIQUE REGIONS

When you're perusing the wine store, look for less popular areas, such as South Africa, France's Languedoc region, Austria, Portugal and Spain, to find delicious wines at a lower cost.



DURBANVILLE HILLS SHIRAZ, SOUTH AFRICA, \$12

WILLM GEWÜRZTRAMINER, FRANCE, \$16



CHOOSE COMPARABLE WINES

Sip outside your comfort zone, and you just might find some hidden gems. If you like Sauvignon Blanc, try Grüner Veltliner; if you appreciate Moscato, sip on Gewürztraminer; if you're a fan of Pinot Noir, try Gamay; if you love Riesling, take a chance on Pinot Gris.

JACKSON-TRIGGS ENTOURAGE GRAND RESERVE BRUT, ONTARIO, \$25



SHOW OFF WITH ONTARIO'S SPARKLING WINES

Most of the sparkling wine produced in Ontario is made just like champagne but can be had for a fraction of the price. The bottles offer exceptional value, taste superb and are a great way to support Canadian winemakers.

3

ERRAZURIZ ESTATE SERIES CABERNET SAUVIGNON, CHILE, \$14



SHOP SOUTH AMERICA

Bottles from Chile and Argentina are definitely wallet-friendly and have great sipping quality. Try tasty yet affordable South American Carménère or Cabernet Sauvignon.

4

PAUL MAS ESTATE CABERNET SAUVIGNON-MERLOT, FRANCE, \$14



RETHINK OLD-WORLD VARIETALS

Italian Amarone might be expensive, but try a Primitivo (Zinfandel), Ripasso or Chianti for amazing flavours at a lower cost. The same can be said for France: Stray from Bordeaux and try something from the south instead.



Canadian Living

DINNER IS READY



135 DELICIOUS RECIPES

New Slow Cooker Favourites is a fresh helping of inspiration for cooks who love the feeling of coming home to a ready-made, flavourful dinner, but don't have time to stand over the stove.

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style, etc.

Each issue, assistant editor Brittany Devenyi compiles the best decorating ideas, DIY projects, book reviews, where-to-buy info and more from our pages.

STYLE NEWS

project of the month **FROM PAGE 27**

MATERIALS

- Magnetic letters • Gold spray paint • White spray paint • Frame • Black permanent marker • Piece of sheet metal • Tinsnips • Pencil • Coloured card stock • Scissors



Style at Home managing editor and resident crafter Catherine Therrien explains how to create an inspirational quote board using magnetic letters.

1 Once you've determined the quote you'd like to use, decide which words you want in gold or white. Spray-paint the magnetic letters accordingly. Let dry fully.

2 Remove the glass and the mat from the frame.

3 Using the permanent marker, trace the outside of the mat onto the sheet metal; carefully cut it out with the tinsnips.

4 Using the pencil, trace the outside of the mat onto the card stock; cut it out with the scissors.

5 Layer the piece of card stock on top of the sheet metal; place both inside the frame with the card stock facing out. (Do not replace the glass or the mat when assembling.) Replace the frame's backing and fasten.

6 Display the letters.

Imaginarium Magnetic **LETTERS & NUMBERS**, Toys"R"Us, toysrus.ca; Krylon Metallic **SPRAY PAINT** in Gold, Michaels, michaels.com; Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch Satin **SPRAY PAINT** in Blossom White, **SHEET METAL**, The Home Depot, home-depot.ca; **PICTURE FRAME**, Indigo, indigo.ca; **CARD STOCK**, Curry's, currys.com.

ON OUR MUST-READ LIST

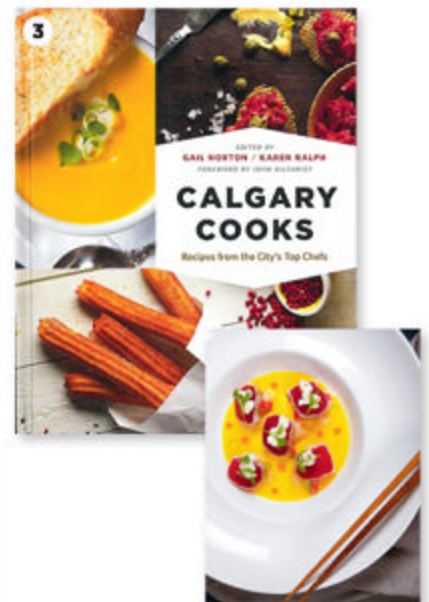
region-specific cookbooks

1 If you've ever had the urge to sneak into the kitchen of a much-lauded Toronto restaurant to observe the head chef's masterful ways, consider *Toronto Cooks* your new must read. From Khao San Road's Bangkok-style pad Thai to Pizzeria Libretto's spicy meatballs, author Amy Rosen reveals all. Figure 1, \$38.

2 Move over poutine – Quebec's traditional cuisine is being reinvented. In *Made in Quebec*, food writer Julian Armstrong digs into the province's growing culinary scene,

testing out fare from well-known restaurateurs and local farmers while serving up their stories (and recipes!) one glossy page at a time. HarperCollins, \$40.

3 When it comes to good eats, Calgary is hailed for its top chefs, creative dishes and, most notably, its diverse dining options. *Calgary Cooks* features 80 recipes inspired by meals offered in the city's top restaurants, including Downtown-food's seafood ceviche. Figure 1, \$35.



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**vs. Poise. †based on average U.S. consumer usage. © 2015 P&G



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SEEING THE WHITE

top 10 reno survival tips **FROM PAGE 88**

Two busy parents plus two young boys can add up to one hectic family home. When you subtract the kitchen, the outcome can be downright chaotic. Here's how *Style at Home* art director Karen Paddon survived her two-month kitchen reno.

1 If possible, **SCHEDULE YOUR RENO for the SUMMER MONTHS.**

We did ours in the winter, but having access to the barbecue and being able to spend most of our time outdoors would have been much more convenient.

2 **If you can AFFORD IT, move out during the renovation**

or at least during the ruckus of the initial demo. We planned a family getaway for the weekend that the floors were being ripped up to escape the noise and dust.



3

CREATE A MAKESHIFT KITCHEN.

We turned the upstairs playroom into a cooking space by taking up our old microwave, toaster and George Foreman grill, as well as a mini-fridge from the garage. The tub in the adjacent bathroom was handy for washing dishes.

4 **Shop small.** TO KEEP OUR TEMPORARY KITCHEN FUNCTIONAL, WE DID **a few grocery runs a week.**

THAT WAY, I CUT DOWN ON THE TRIPS DOWN TWO FLIGHTS OF STAIRS TO THE BASEMENT FRIDGE.

5

Make a clean break.

We isolated ourselves from the areas being worked on. We moved everything we needed (most importantly, the kids' toys) upstairs. My husband and I didn't go near the kitchen much, so the kids didn't seem to want to either.

6 **SIMPLIFY.**

Without an oven, our menu options were limited, BUT WE MADE IT WORK. WE ATE A LOT OF sandwiches, salads and micro-waved rice and peas. I TRIED TO KEEP THINGS HEALTHY with veggie platters and cut fruit.

7

STAY IN THE LOOP. THE MORE FAMILIAR YOU ARE WITH THE RENO TIME-LINE,

the better you'll be able to anticipate the especially disruptive projects and plan outings during those hours.

9 **Take this opportunity to visit with family and friends.**

A few times a week, we ate a meal at the grandparents'. And I don't think I turned down a single dinner party invitation in those two months!

8 **Double and triple up.** I think people try to tackle one reno at a time, **BUT REDOING THE KITCHEN FLOOR QUICKLY SNOWBALLED INTO REDOING THE FLOORS ON THE WHOLE MAIN LEVEL** – we wanted the same finish throughout. And once we got to the laundry room, we decided to renovate it, too.

10 **Plan well. WE SURVIVED IT, BUT LIVING THROUGH A KITCHEN RENO WAS NOT EASY.**

Above all else, I'd recommend having a game plan in place to keep the timeline as short as possible and to ensure all the boxes are ticked so there aren't any redos down the line. We chose a timeless aesthetic, so I won't have to touch the kitchen for another 10 years, at least!

Gain fan Caitlin says:

“It leaves a fresh scent on your washed clothes for days! Totally easy to use, just pop them in and leave.”

Gain flings! are
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Altima Kitchens

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California Kitchens

californiakitchens.ca

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Canvas Gallery

canvasgallery.ca

CC DeuxVie

ccdeuxvie.etsy.com

Ceragres

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Machine Age Modern

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Mercana Art Decor

mercana.com

Montana Labelle

montanalabelle.com

Morba

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P

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peguerin.com

Petroff Gallery

petroffgallery.com

PI Fine Art

pifineart.com

Primavera*

primavera.ca

Q

Quasi Modo Modern Furniture

quasimodomodern.com

R

Relative Space

relativespace.com

Restoration Hardware

rh.com

Ribbehege & Azevedo

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Ridley Windows & Doors

ridley-windows.com

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salttillo-tiles.com

Spearmint Love

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Statum Designs

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Stone Depot

hrnaturestone.com

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Sub-Zero and Wolf

subzero-wolf.com

T

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Taps Bath Centre

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Threadcount Textile & Design*

threadcountinc.com

Tonic Living

tonicliving.com

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unionlf.com

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#SAHSTYLECOUNCIL SURVEY

The results are in! Here's how our style council voted on this issue's topic:

kitchen organizing



YOUR FAVE
DIY KITCHEN
STORAGE
SOLUTION

29%
HOOKS
INSTALLED
INSIDE CABINET
DOORS FOR HANG-
ING UTENSILS

OPEN vs. CLOSED SHELVING

54%

PREFER CLOSED
SHELVES – ARE YOUR
TUPPERWARE PILES
THAT BAD?



YOUR MOST USED ORGANIZING SOLUTION IN THE KITCHEN

LAZY SUSAN 31%

FREE-STANDING PANTRY
SHELVING UNIT **27%**
ROLL-OUT RACKS **22%**
MAGNETIZED KNIFE HOLDER **12%**
CHALKBOARD WALL **8%**

68%
UNCLUTTERED
CLEAR
**GLASS OR
PLASTIC**



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